Poultry and Egg Situation

Economics, Statistics, and Cooperatives Service

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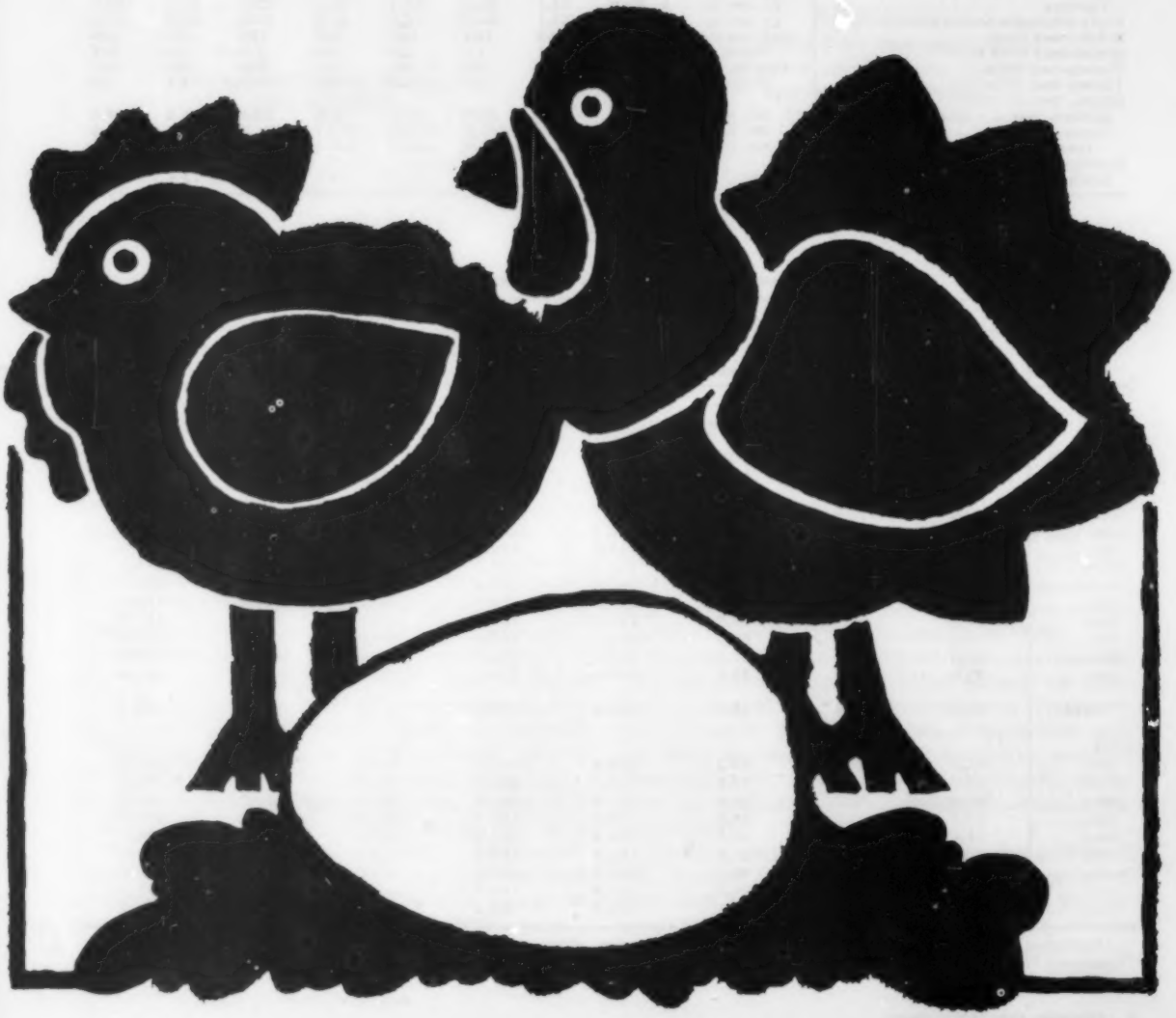

Table 1—Poultry and Egg Situation at a Glance

Item	Unit	1978				1979			
		July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
		Eggs							
Farm production	Mil. doz.	460.7	462.8	456.5	478.2	476.6	475.5	462.8	482.5
Average number of layers on farms	Mil.	274.3	276.1	280.4	285.3	280.6	281.0	283.8	287.2
Rate of lay per layer	No.	20.2	20.1	19.5	20.1	20.4	20.3	29.6	20.2
Price received by farmers	Ct. per doz.	49.6	52.7	54.4	52.7	53.4	52.3	54.8	52.2
14 Metro areas price Grade A large	Ct. per doz.	61.8	63.4	65.0	62.3	64.4	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Price paid for laying feed	Dol. per ton	155	150	149	150	177	174	173	174
Egg-feed price ratio	Pounds	6.4	7.0	7.3	7.0	6.0	6.0	6.3	6.0
Stocks, first of month:									
Shell	Thous. cases	26	26	48	43	33	35	28	31
Frozen	Mil. lb.	26.6	28.0	28.7	28.7	22.8	25.8	24.7	24.0
Replacement chicks hatched	Mil.	35.8	38.6	37.2	37.7	42.4	41.7	35.8	39.5
		Poultry							
Federally inspected slaughter, cert.									
Broilers	Mil. lb.	801.7	930.8	834.0	896.4	965.3	1,026.3	863.2	1,038.0
Turkeys	Mil. lb.	199.9	248.8	230.9	271.2	219.2	267.7	233.0	297.5
Price at farm, live weight									
Broilers	Ct. per lb.	31.6	26.2	26.2	24.6	25.5	23.0	23.4	21.1
Turkeys	Ct. per lb.	42.0	43.4	44.0	45.7	38.3	38.6	38.1	40.1
9-city wholesale broiler price	Ct. per lb.	50.8	44.1	44.9	42.0	42.8	39.6	39.9	37.0
Broiler-feed price	Dol. per ton	170	169	168	169	199	199	195	196
Broiler-feed price ratio	Pounds	3.7	3.1	3.1	2.9	2.6	2.3	2.4	2.2
Turkey-feed price	Dol. per lb.	186	182	180	183	214	206	206	207
Turkey-feed price ratio	Pounds	4.5	4.8	4.9	5.0	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.9
Stocks, first of month:									
Broilers, fryers, roasters	Mil. lb.	21.1	21.7	20.9	21.1	18.6	23.4	25.5	28.9
Turkeys	Mil. lb.	152.8	213.6	301.2	373.3	200.9	271.3	382.4	431.3
Total poultry	Mil. lb.	257.0	325.8	415.9	488.9	327.2	409.1	527.7	588.6
Average weekly placement of broiler chicks in 21 States	Mil.	72.9	68.7	66.5	67.1	79.1	78.0	72.5	70.4

Table 2— Retail prices and price indexes for egg and poultry 1978-79

Month and year	Retail price[1]			Retail price index[2]				
	Eggs	Frying chicken	Turkeys	Eggs	Fresh whole chicken	Fresh & frozen chicken parts	Other poultry	Poultry
	Cents per dozen	*Cents per pound*	*Cents per pound*	*1967=100*	*1967=100*	*December 1977=100*	*December 1977=100*	*1967=100*
1978								
Jan.	73.2	57.8	74.6	156.1	156.2	101.9	103.0	157.5
Feb.	77.7	61.0	73.9	159.1	163.0	103.6	104.2	161.5
Mar.	79.8	61.9	75.1	160.7	165.7	105.4	105.0	163.9
Apr.	77.4	65.1	77.6	155.3	174.7	108.1	106.2	169.3
May	70.3	66.8	79.3	147.4	175.8	109.2	107.8	171.0
June	65.8	72.7	81.9	137.0	185.1	114.2	110.7	178.4
July	75.8	72.0	82.4	146.5	194.4	118.1	113.1	185.2
Aug.	81.1	72.2	84.8	164.1	182.0	113.8	115.6	179.1
Sept.	80.1	67.3	85.9	161.9	180.6	111.7	116.6	177.9
Oct.	76.5	66.8	87.5	159.1	177.6	112.4	117.2	177.3
Nov.	80.0	67.0	87.1	167.0	175.5	112.3	116.3	176.0
Dec.	86.0	67.4	88.1	179.5	176.7	112.5	118.7	177.6
Year	77.0	66.5	81.5	157.8	175.6	110.2	111.2	172.9
1979								
Jan.	88.3	67.8	90.3	180.4	179.8	114.9	121.3	181.2
Feb.	88.0	69.5	89.8	182.1	185.3	118.6	122.5	185.8
Mar.	90.4	71.5	90.9	181.3	191.5	121.6	123.0	189.9
Apr.	86.7	70.3	90.6	179.0	191.5	121.5	123.0	189.9
May	79.6	71.1	91.1	172.9	185.9	120.4	125.1	188.0
June	82.4	69.6	91.4	161.9	185.8	120.3	123.4	187.2
July	81.6	68.8	90.4	165.8	184.1	119.4	123.6	186.2
Aug.	82.5	64.4	90.0	161.8	171.3	112.1	123.0	177.1
Sept.	81.5	64.6	89.1	170.7	169.9	111.8	119.2	174.8

[1] Estimated average price for 4 regions for Grade A large eggs, Grade A frying chicken, and 8-16 pound young hen turkey.
[2] Consumer Price Index (CPI) for all urban consumers published by Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

In This Issue

	Page
Poultry and Egg Situation at a Glance	2
Summary	3
Factors Affecting the Poultry and Egg Industries	5
Eggs	5
Broilers	10
Turkeys	15
Special Article: Energy Costs in Broiler Processing Plants: Current Trends and Prospects .	21
Selected Poultry and Egg Statistics	29
List of Tables	35

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SUMMARY

Broiler producers are in a cost-price squeeze. The 10 percent increase in broiler production this year, along with a sharp rise in pork output in the second half, has put downward pressure on broiler prices. Meanwhile, production costs have continued to rise. This situation likely will prompt broiler producers to end the lengthy uptrend in production by mid-1980. A sharp increase in turkey output in the first half of 1980 will result from continued good profits in 1979. Total egg production in January-June 1980 may increase around 1 to 2 percent.

Total egg production in 1979 increased about 2 percent from the 1978 level as a result of the larger laying flock and the higher rate of lay. In the first half of 1980, egg production could be up 1 to 2 percent from the January-June 1979 level. However, returns to egg producers in the first half of 1980 are not expected to be favorable enough to generate an expansion in output later in the year.

Egg prices were sharply higher early in 1979, averaging about 11 cents above a year earlier in the first half. Prices declined slightly during the summer as output remained well above year-earlier levels. Prices strengthened seasonally this fall, and will average near 70 cents. First-quarter 1979 egg prices increased from the previous fall because of high prices of other protein foods. This is not expected to occur in the first quarter of 1980.

Output of federally inspected broiler meat in 1979 will total around 10.9 billion pounds, up more than 10 percent from 1978's record level. Producers have recently reduced the rate of expansion and are likely to continue doing so in coming months. First half broiler production will run slightly above 1979, but could drop below year-earlier levels in the second half.

Broiler prices dropped sharply in the middle of 1979 because of pressure from the large supplies of pork and poultry. However, prices have shown unexpected strength recently, and the 9-city wholesale price for October-December will average about 41 cents a pound, about a cent below the year-ear-

lier level. Wholesale broiler prices will remain under pressure from larger pork and poultry supplies and a sluggish general economy in early 1980, with prices averaging in the low 40's during the first half of the year.

Turkey production in 1979 increased about 9 percent from 1978, because producers have responded to favorable returns of the past 2 years. During the first half of 1980, turkey output may exceed 1979 levels by nearly a fourth. Percentage gains in output will slow in the second half but will remain well above 1979.

The increased turkey production and large supplies of competing meats will hold first half 1980 turkey prices under the 1979 level of 68 cents a pound.

Poultry, Livestock, and Egg Production and changes from a year earlier

	1978		1979				1980	
	III	IV	I	II[1]	III[1]	IV[1]	I[1]	II[1]
Broilers[2] (Mil. lb.)	2,567	2,443	2,551	2,844	2,855	2,645	2,625	2,840
Percent change	+6	+9	+10	+12	+11	+8	+3	0
Turkeys[2] (Mil. lb.)	680	676	271	465	724	715	350	560
Percent change	+1	+5	+19	+16	+6	+6	+29	+20
Beef[3] (Mil. lb.)	5,921	6,040	5,546	5,076	5,219	5,300	5,200	5,175
Percent change	-6	-3	-9	-15	-12	-12	-6	+2
Pork[3] (Mil. lb.)	3,158	3,539	3,399	3,760	3,779	4,300	4,100	4,250
Percent change	+3	+1	+5	+15	+20	+21	+21	+13
Total[4] (Mil. lb.)	12,538	12,908	11,954	12,314	12,740	13,130	12,440	12,975
Percent change	-2	0	-2	0	+2	+2	+4	+5
Eggs (Mil. doz.)	1,380	1,444	1,419	1,422	1,415	1,470	1,445	1,435
Percent change	+4	+2	+3	+2	+3	+2	+2	+1

Poultry, Livestock, and Egg Prices

	1978		1979				1980	
	III	IV	I	II[1]	III[1]	IV[1]	I[1]	II[1]
Broiler-9-City[5] (Cents/lb.)	46.6	42.1	47.5	47.7	40.8	40-42	42-44	41-43
Turkeys, New York[6] (Cents/lb.)	68.2	77.1	70.2	66.2	63.1	72-74	65-69	59-63
Choice Steers, Omaha (Dollars/cwt.)	53.8	54.7	65.42	72.5	65.9	66-68	68-72	67-71
Barrows and Gilts, 7 7-markets ($/cwt.)	48.5	50.0	51.98	43.0	38.5	35-37	36-38	33-35
Eggs, New York[7] (Cents/doz.)	63.0	67.8	71.9	66.2	65.2	68-70	66-68	60-62

[1] Forecast. [2] Federally inspected slaughter. [3] Commercial production. [4] Includes veal and lamb and mutton. [5] wholesale weighted average. [6] 8-16 lb. young hens. [7] Cartoned, consumer Grade A large, sales to volume buyers.

The estimated Price/Production relationship series normally carried in this report are not included this time, but will be resumed with the next issue.

POULTRY AND EGG SITUATION

FACTORS AFFECTING THE POULTRY AND EGG INDUSTRIES

Broiler producer returns were very good early in 1979, but declined to negative levels during the second half. Egg producers had a period of negative returns in the summer and early fall but are currently making a profit. Turkey producers' profits remained favorable throughout the year. The demand for poultry and eggs may weaken in coming months because of large pork supplies and a sluggish general economy. Even if the economy rebounds during the second half of 1980, broiler producers may have to cut back on production to increase returns to favorable levels. Much depends on the supply of competing meats.

Red Meat Production Up Slightly in 1980

Total commercial red meat production this year will be down nearly 3 percent, or 1 billion pounds, from the 38.1 billion produced in 1978. Lower beef, veal, and lamb and mutton production more than outweighed the large increase in pork output.

Commercial cattle slaughter in 1979 will be down about 15 percent from a year earlier. However, this slaughter consists of a higher proportion of fed cattle, and slaughter weights have been heavier, resulting in only a 12-percent decline in beef production. With this lower beef production, cattle prices have risen. Choice 900-1,100 pound steers at Omaha averaged $68 per cwt. in 1979, up about $16 from the 1978 level. Fed cattle prices are likely to edge upward in 1980.

Pork production has expanded rapidly this year and for all of 1979 could total about 15 percent greater than in 1978. In 1980, production is expected to be at record levels through much of the year and may exceed the 1979 total by 8 to 11 percent. Most of the year-to-year increase in pork production is expected to occur during the first half of the year.

Large pork production has kept downward pressure on hog prices. Barrows and gilts at 7 markets will average around $41 per cwt. this year, down from nearly $48 in 1978. With the expected continued expansion in pork production, hog prices will likely average well below year-earlier levels during the first half of the year.

Production Costs

Estimated production costs for poultry and eggs have been above 1978 levels during much of this year, largely because of higher feed prices. During the first 9 months of 1979, corn and soybean meal prices averaged about 10 percent and 15 percent higher than a year earlier, respectively.

The 1979 corn crop was estimated at 7.6 billion bushels, 7 percent more than last year's record crop. But, corn prices are higher than a year ago, and for the 1979/80 marketing year may average $2.25 to $2.55 per bushel at the farm, compared with $2.20 in 1978/79 and $2.02 in 1977/78.

Another large soybean crop was harvested. The crop was estimated at a little over 2.2 billion bushels, 20 percent above the 1978 crop. Although expanded demand is in prospect, soybean stocks are expected to increase sharply; consequently, soybean meal prices are expected to average $160-$200 per ton in 1979/80, compared with about $190 in 1978/79.

Feed costs for poultry and eggs are higher than last fall and costs will likely be moderately above 1979 levels most of next year. Also, substantial regional differences exist in corn prices with prices in the Southeast being much higher than the national average. Much of the higher corn price in the Southeast can be attributed to transportation costs. Production costs other than feed will continue their upward trend of recent years.

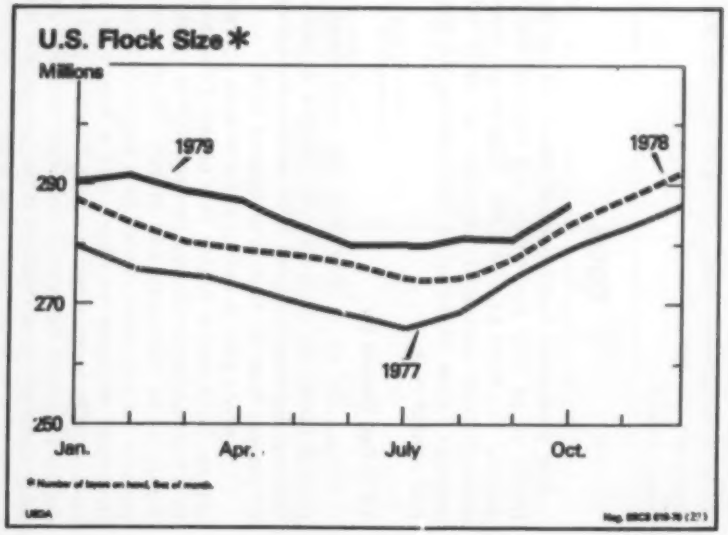
EGGS

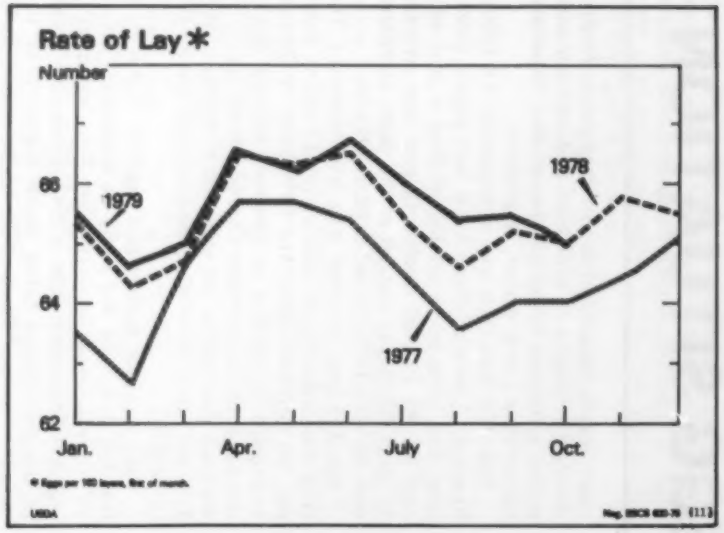
Egg production has remained above year-earlier levels all of 1979 and likely will continue above during the first half of 1980. Egg prices have strengthened seasonally this fall, but likely will average below year-earlier levels during the first half of next year.

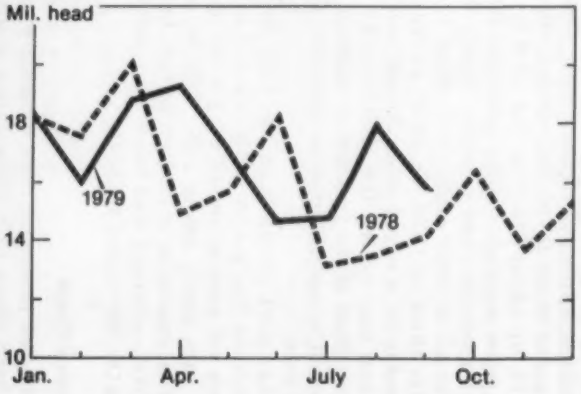
1979 Egg Output Up

Output for all of 1979 likely will total about 2 percent above the previous year. During January-October, egg output totaled 4,738 million dozens, up 2.3 percent from the first 10 months of 1978.

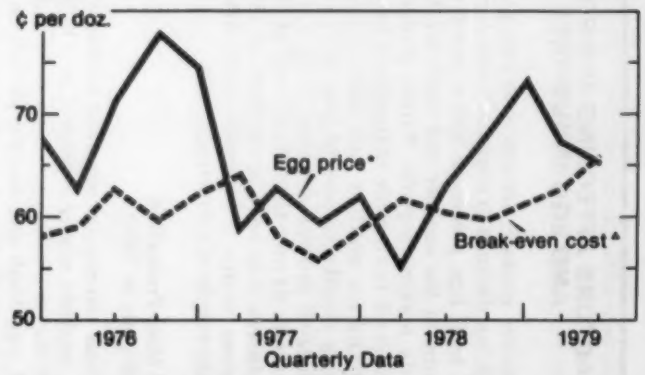
This year's gain in output is due to both a larger laying flock and a higher rate of lay. Compared with year-earlier levels, egg production was up over 3 percent in February and March. These gains early in the year were caused by a nearly 3-percent increase in layer numbers and a less than ½ percent increase in output per hen. Producer profits declined through the spring and were very low by early summer. As a result of these low profits, the size of the laying flock was reduced. Mature







*Fowl from breeder and market egg flocks.



*14 area metro price. ▲Estimated U.S. break-even cost.

Layers on farms and eggs produced

Calendar quarters	Number of layers		Eggs per layer		Eggs produced	
	1978	1979	1978	1979	1978	1979
	Mil.		*No.*		*Mil. doz.*	
I	283	290	58.5	58.8	1,378.1	1,418.8
II	277	282	60.3	60.4	1,394.0	1,421.7
III	277	282	59.8	60.3	1,380.0	1,414.8
IV	289		60.0		1,444.2	
Annual	281		238.7		5,596.3	

chicken slaughter rose about 18 percent above the year-earlier level during the summer and early fall. This resulted in layer numbers in October being only 0.7 percent greater than a year earlier. Egg production in October was only 1 percent greater than a year earlier as output per hen rose only 0.2 percent.

On November 1, layer numbers totaled 287.8 million, virtually the same as a year earlier, while the rate of lay was up slightly. The monthly rate of lay has exceeded the same month of the previous year since July 1977, with the exception of April and May 1979—when it was even with a year earlier.

Small Production Increase in 1980

Layer numbers may begin 1980 about 1 to 2 percent above the year-earlier level and January-June 1980 egg production may increase by a similar amount.

With first half 1980 egg prices likely to be below a year earlier and production costs higher, producers will continue to be in a cost-price squeeze. These low profit margins in the first half of 1980 could result in layer numbers being near a year earlier by midyear. Second-half egg production might then be near year-earlier levels.

Table 3—Egg-type chick hatchery operations

Month	Hatch			Eggs in incubators first of month change from year earlier	
	1977	1978	1979	1978	1979
	Thou.			*Pct.*	
January	40,338	36,891	39,858	-11	10
February	40,893	36,906	39,527	-14	7
March	51,265	46,805	49,412	-5	9
April	55,133	50,886	52,572	-6	3
May	52,452	53,675	53,600	2	2
June	44,700	45,631	47.331	8	2
July	37,412	35,806	42,400	1	12
August	37,821	38,556	41,691	1	10
September	37,394	38,556	35,760	0	-1
October	37,559	37,715	39,499	7	-3
November	34,470	35,637		3	3
December	32,476	35,878		15	

Egg Price Prospects

Prices for cartoned Grade A large eggs in New York averaged 69 cents a dozen during the first half of 1979, about 11 cents above a year earlier. Prices declined slightly during the summer as output remained well above year-earlier levels. But, at 65.2 cents a dozen, they were still about 2 cents above July-September 1978. Prices began strengthening in mid-October and cartoned egg prices this October-December likely will average 1 to 3 cents a dozen above the 68-cent average in the fall of 1978.

With expected production patterns, combined with an expected slowdown in the general economy in the first half of 1980, the egg price picture for the first half of next year is weak. If output

Table 4—Force moltings and light-type hen slaughter, 1977-79

Month	Forced molt layers[1]						Light-type hens slaughtered under federal inspection		
	Being molted			Molt completed					
	1977	1978	1979	1977	1978	1979	1977	1978	1979
	Percent			*Percent*			*Thousand*		
January	3.2	2.4	2.5	15.1	13.6	14.1	14,076	15,804	15,508
February	3.4	3.7	3.5	14.4	11.9	13.8	14,519	15,232	13,529
March	3.9	3.8	3.8	13.8	12.7	13.4	16,758	17,620	15,947
April	2.7	3.3	2.9	12.5	12.1	13.1	16,587	12,969	16,552
May	5.1	4.9	4.5	11.8	10.6	12.0	14,160	13,378	14,142
June	5.5	4.9	5.0	11.3	11.9	12.3	15,361	15,738	11,570
July	4.1	5.0	4.1	13.3	12.0	13.7	10,163	11,121	11,985
August	3.6	4.5	4.3	14.3	13.7	14.0	11,976	10,698	14,086
September	3.2	3.7	4.1	14.4	14.0	14.5	12,861	11,625	
October	4.6	4.1	4.2	13.9	13.4	14.2	12,525	13,594	
November	3.8	3.5	4.1	14.7	13.3	14.8	11,837	11,431	
December	3.0	2.5		15.4	14.9		13,990	12,977	

[1] Percent of hens and pullets of laying age in 17 selected states.

Table 5— Egg prices, 1978-79

Month & year	E.M.E.C. quotes on market values[1]		Received by producers United States[2]	Cartoned Grade A large New York[3]
	East	Midwest		
	Cents			
1978				
January	44.6	43.7	49.2	57.2
February	54.2	52.8	54.7	64.9
March	53.0	52.3	54.8	64.0
April	46.4	45.0	51.7	57.9
May	43.3	42.3	49.2	52.9
June	39.3	38.9	43.7	50.6
July	52.8	51.8	49.6	62.8
August	51.4	50.1	52.7	62.6
September	53.0	51.0	54.4	63.8
October	50.1	49.5	52.7	62.1
November	57.4	56.5	58.0	68.8
December	60.8	60.1	61.6	72.6
1979				
January	62.4	60.6	60.3	72.5
February	56.4	55.0	60.1	68.0
March	64.7	63.3	64.3	75.1
April	56.5	56.2	60.2	69.6
May	52.3	51.4	56.7	62.6
June	55.2	55.2	55.6	66.1
July	50.3	51.1	53.4	64.0
August	54.4	54.7	52.3	67.0
September	50.2	50.2	54.8	64.7
October	50.4	50.2	52.2	63.2
November				
December				

[1] Average of weekly price quotations for No. 1 nest run eggs by the Egg Market Evaluation Committee. Does not necessarily represent prices at which eggs are traded in the market. [2] Average of all eggs sold by farmers including hatching eggs and eggs sold at retail. [3] Sales to volume buyers, store door delivery, consumer Grade A large.

Table 6— Shell eggs broken and egg products produced under federal inspection, 1978-79

Period[1]	Shell eggs broken	Egg products produced[2]		
		Liquid[3]	Frozen	Dried
	Thou. doz.	*Thou. lbs.*	*Thou. lbs.*	*Thou. lbs.*
1978				
Jan. 1-Jan. 28	48,855	27,867	25,652	5,506
Jan. 29-Feb. 25	47,627	29,218	24,983	5,144
Feb. 26-Mar. 25	45,341	28,348	23,021	4,000
Mar. 26-Apr. 22	51,948	30,904	26,605	5,501
Apr. 23-May 20	56,547	34,437	28,328	6,651
May 21-June 17	62,978	35,587	33,768	7,827
June 18-July 15	60,032	33,971	29,953	6,775
July 16-Aug. 12	55,138	31,030	27,054	5,805
Aug.13-Sept. 9	53,400	32,179	24,307	5,255
Sept. 10-Sept. 30	42,820	26,442	19,972	5,007
Oct. 1-Nov. 4	67,102	41,837	32,267	8,355
Nov. 5-Dec. 2	44,814	26,579	22,048	4,702
Dec. 3-Dec. 30	49,422	28,106	27,171	4,298
1979				
Dec. 31-Jan. 27	47,259	27,752	24,507	4,999
Jan. 28-Feb. 24	47,606	29,553	21,911	5,284
Feb. 25-Mar. 24	48,013	29,106	23,758	5,000
Mar. 25-Apr. 21	49,077	29,191	24,192	4,866
Apr. 22-May 20	54,489	32,399	25,891	5,841
May 21-June 17	58,749	36,338	26,891	7,184
June 18-July15	60,841	35,768	29,001	7,229
July 16-Aug. 11	60,655	36,262	27,830	8,217
Aug. 12-Sept. 8	55,090	32,533	25,119	6,549
Sept. 9-Sept. 30	44,330	26,414	20,072	4,608

[1] Weeks in 1979 and 1978. [2] Includes ingredients added. [3] Liquid egg product produced for immediate consumption and for processing.

increases as expected, first quarter 1980 egg prices likely will be below relatively high year-earlier levels and average in the mid-to-upper 60's.

1979 Egg Consumption Up

Consumption of shell eggs and egg products for all of 1979 may gain about 4 eggs per person from the 277 eggs (shell equivalent) last year. The 2-percent increase in production and lower exports more than offset the increased hatching use and gain in population.

Imports and Exports Both Down; Shipments Up

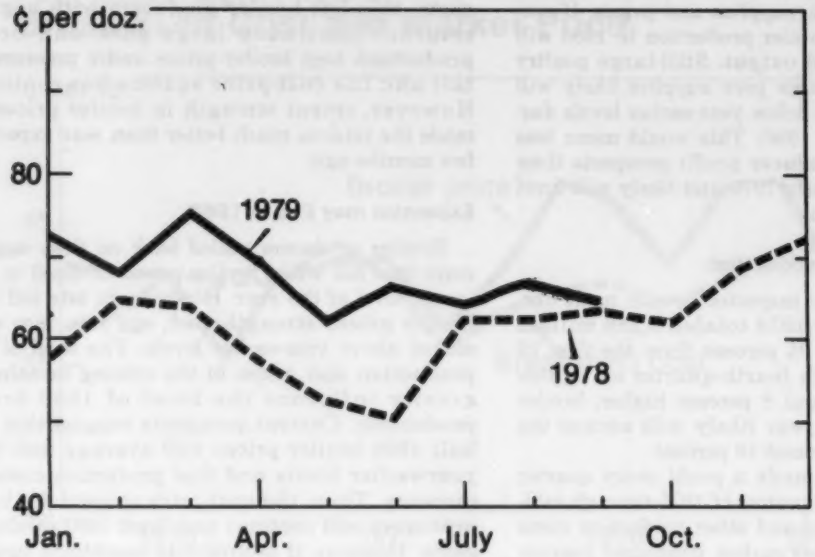
Imports of shell eggs and egg products in 1979 are running below last year. Imports during January-September totaled 6.8 million dozen (shell equivalent), compared with 11.4 million in the same period in 1978.

Exports of eggs and egg products are also down this year. Through the first 9 months, 53.6 million dozen (shell equivalent) were exported, compared with an unusually high 75.4 million in the same months of 1978. Shipments to U.S. territories during January-September totaled 19.3 million dozen (shell equivalent), up about 14-½ percent from the previous year.

Hatching Use Up, Breaking Use About the Same

Eggs going for hatchery purposes through September were estimated at 375 million dozen, up nearly 8 percent from a year earlier. Eggs used for hatching during this period accounted for 8.8 percent of total egg production, compared with 8.4 percent the previous year. Eggs moving into breaking channels during January-September totaled 526 million dozen, up about a million from 1978. Eggs used for breaking during this period accounted for 12.4 percent of total egg production compared with 12.6 percent the previous year. Weekly reports indicate that breakings have been running well above a year earlier since early October.

Cartoned Egg Prices, New York*



*Sales to volume buyers, consumer grade A large.

Table 7— Total eggs: Supply and utilization, 1977-79

Year and quarters	Supply				Utilization					
							Domestic disappearance			
	Production	Imports[1]	Beginning stocks[1]	Total supply	Ending stocks[1]	Exports and shipments[1]	Eggs used for hatching	Military[1]	Civilian[1]	
									Total	Per capita
	Million dozen									*Number*
1977										
I	1,325.8	1.1	20.7	1,347.6	19.9	16.1	109.3	7.6	1,194.7	67.0
II	1,337.7	6.0	19.9	1,363.6	25.0	23.2	112.6	10.9	1,191.9	66.7
III	1,333.1	6.9	25.0	1,365.0	27.1	26.8	102.6	10.0	1,198.5	66.9
IV	1,410.6	.2	27.1	1,437.9	23.7	24.6	104.7	7.8	1,277.1	71.1
1978										
I	1,378.1	1.4	23.7	1,403.2	18.1	37.4	113.2	6.6	1,227.9	68.2
II	1,394.0	3.3	18.1	1,415.4	21.0	30.0	122.4	7.0	1,235.0	68.6
III	1,380.0	6.7	21.0	1,407.7	23.1	24.9	111.9	7.4	1,240.4	68.8
IV	1,444.2	.1	23.1	1,467.4	20.3	28.0	115.4	6.9	1,296.8	71.7
1979										
I	1,418.8	.4	20.3	1,439.5	16.7	24.4	124.1	5.8	1,268.5	70.0
II	1,421.7	2.2	16.7	1,440.6	18.0	22.8	132.3	13.3	1,254.1	69.0
III	1,414.7	4.2	18.0	1,436.9	19.2	25.4	118.4	7.4	1,266.5	69.5

[1] Shell eggs and the approximate shell-egg equivalent of egg product. [2] Less than 100,000 dozen. [3] Calculated from unrounded data.

BROILERS

Broiler production in 1980 will hinge largely on what happens to pork supplies and prices. If current prospects hold, broiler production in 1980 will be near 1979's record output. Still-large poultry meat supplies and large pork supplies likely will result in broiler prices below year-earlier levels during the first half of 1980. This would mean less favorable broiler producer profit prospects than existed in 1978 and early 1979 and likely will limit 1980 broiler production.

1979 Broiler Output Record High

Output of federally inspected broiler meat during January-October 1979 totaled 9,288 million pounds, up nearly 11 ½ percent from the first 10 months of 1978. With fourth-quarter slaughter likely to average about 8 percent higher, broiler meat output for the year likely will exceed the record 1978 level by around 10 percent.

Broiler producers made a profit every quarter except 2 from the first quarter of 1975 through mid-1979. Even though feed and other production costs were higher than a year earlier, continued year-to-year gains in consumer incomes and high red meat prices resulted in broiler prices averaging well above a year earlier during the first half. In addition to the extended profitable situation that existed for broiler producers, broiler production during 1979 has not been limited by hatchability problems as it was in 1978.

As both broiler and pork production increased substantially this summer, broiler prices dropped below year-earlier levels. With rising production costs, this left broiler producers with negative returns. Continued large pork and broiler production kept broiler prices under pressure this fall and the cost-price squeeze has continued. However, recent strength in broiler prices has made the returns much better than was expected a few months ago.

Expansion may End in 1980

Broiler producers pulled back on their egg sets early this fall when broiler prices dropped to their lowest level of the year. However, in late fall when broiler prices strengthened, egg sets once again moved above year-earlier levels. The level of pork production and prices in the coming months will greatly influence the level of 1980 broiler production. Current prospects suggest that first-half 1980 broiler prices will average well below year-earlier levels and that production costs will increase. Thus, the cost-price squeeze for broiler producers will continue and limit 1980 production gains. However, if profitability conditions turn out to be more favorable than currently anticipated, the size of the broiler hatchery supply flock is large enough to allow for an expansion in production.

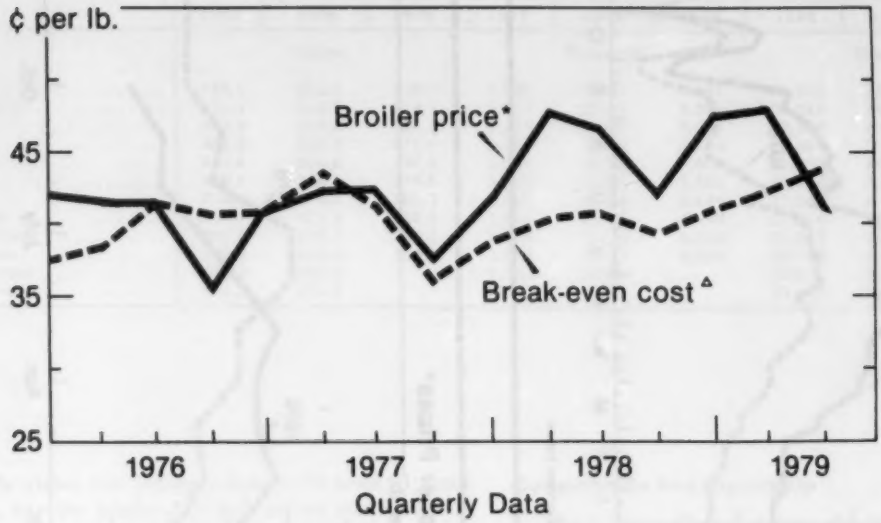
With large poultry and pork supplies and a sluggish general economy weighing heavily on broiler prices, negative returns could cause broiler production in the first half of 1980 to average only

Table 8— Broiler supply and prices

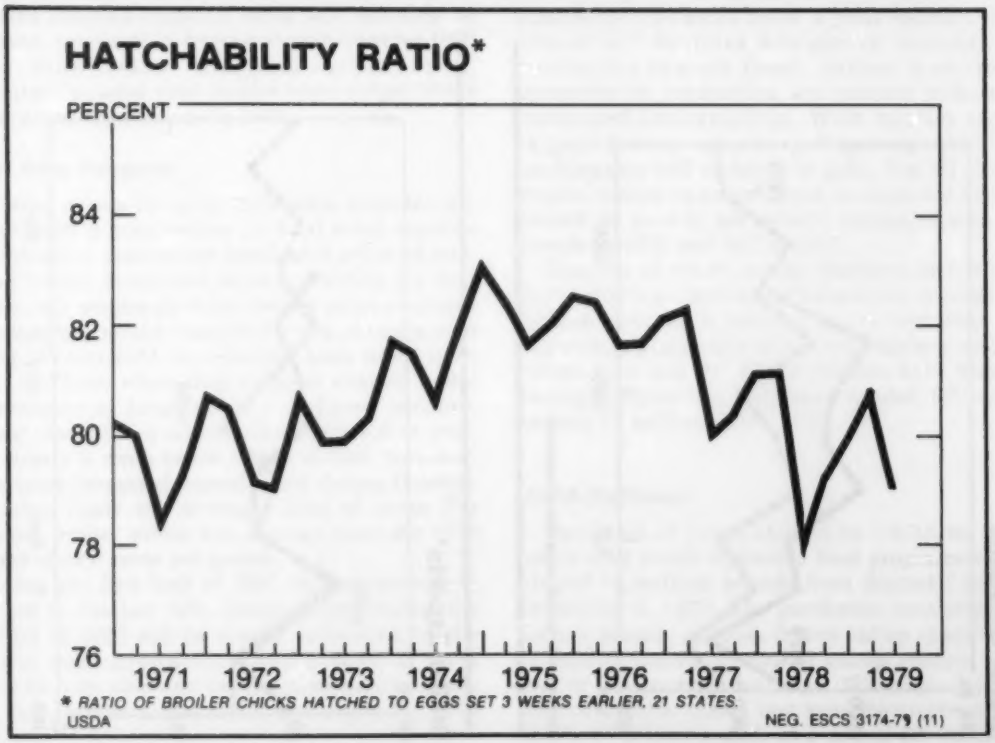
Year and quarters	Federally inspected slaughter				Total production RTC[1]	Per capita consumption	Prices	
	Number	Av. wt.	Live weight pounds	Certified RTC wt.			Farm	9-city
	Mil.	*Lbs.*	*Mil. lbs.*	*Mil. lbs.*	*Mil. lbs.*	*Lbs.*	*Cts/lbs.*	*Cts./lb.*
1977								
I	782	3.82	2,985	2,156	2,201	9.8	23.5	40.9
II	869	3.80	3,305	2,399	2,447	10.8	24.4	42.3
III	884	3.78	3,340	2,424	2,474	10.9	24.6	42.4
IV	798	3.90	3,110	2,248	2,296	10.2	21.5	37.6
Year	3,334	3.82	12,741	9,227	9,418	41.7	23.5	40.8
1978								
I	831	3.88	3,226	2,327	2,390	10.5	24.2	41.8
II	909	3.87	3,519	2,547	2,616	11.6	28.7	47.6
III	922	3.84	3,540	2,567	2,636	11.6	28.0	46.6
IV	854	3.95	3,371	2,443	2,509	11.0	24.7	42.1
Year	3,516	3.88	13,656	9,883	10,151	44.7	26.4	44.5
1979								
I	907	3.90	3,541	2,551	2,622	11.5	28.3	47.5
II	1,011	3.90	3,936	2,844	2,922	12.8	27.9	47.7
III	1,009	3.92	3,951	2,855	2,933	12.8	24.0	40.8

[1] Total production equals federally inspected slaughter plus other slaughter minus cut-up and further processing condemnations.

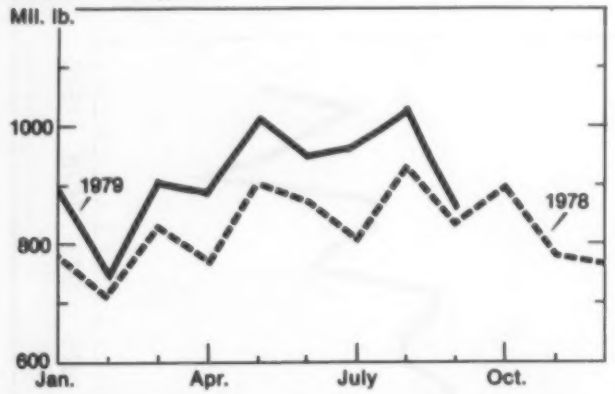
Broilers
Break-Even Cost and Market Price



*Nine city weighted average. △Estimated U.S. break-even cost.

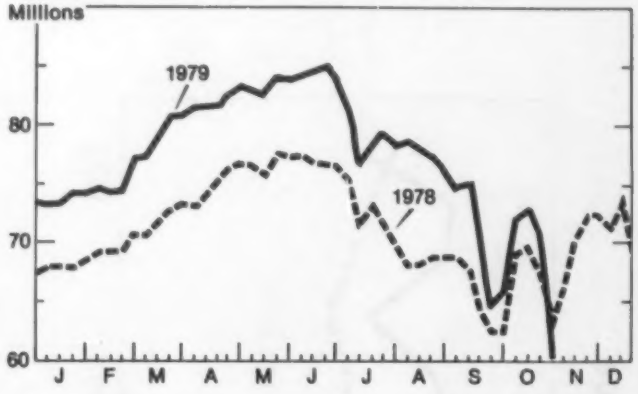


Broiler Slaughter*



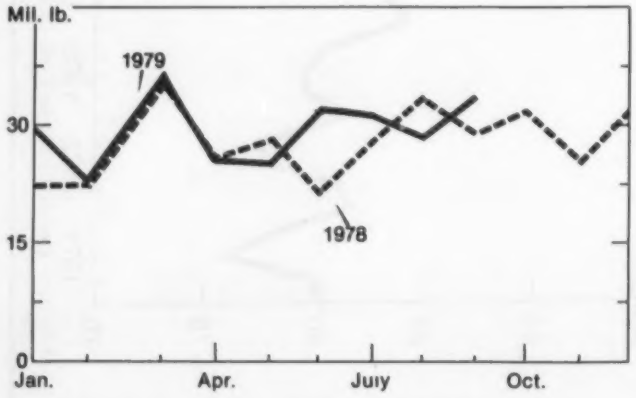
*Certified ready-to-cook, under Federal inspection.

Weekly Broiler Chick Placements*



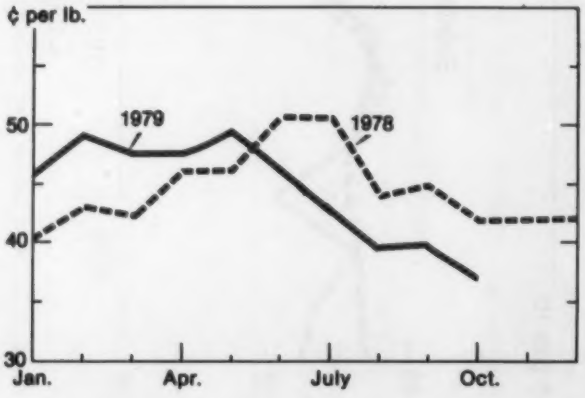
*22 important states.

Broiler Exports*



*Ready-to-cook weight.

Broiler Prices*



*Nine city weighted average.

Table 9— Broiler chicks hatched and pullet chicks placed in hatchery flocks

Month	Broiler-type chicks hatched			Pullet chicks placed in broiler hatchery supply flocks					
				Monthly placements			Cummulative placements 7-14 months earlier		
	1977	1978	1979	1977	1978	1979	1978	1979	1980
	Million			*Thousand*			*Thousand*		
January	294.3	313.0	340.7	2,585	2,687	3,541	21,934	24,824	28,589
February	272.4	289.7	313.3	2,419	2,751	3,089	22,282	25,498	28,642
March	323.2	332.3	366.2	2,919	3,309	4,004	22,353	25,360	28,393
April	324.6	337.9	371.5	3,275	3,629	4,129	22,469	25,802	27,890
May	337.4	360.6	391.2	3,025	3,532	3,960	23,063	26,168	27,730
June	320.1	346.1	379.6	2,730	3,201	3,486	22,846	25,950	
July	310.6	338.5	365.3	2,782	3,376	3,144	22,584	25,610	
August	294.7	318.2	358.9	2,618	2,875	3,040	22,246	25,619	
September	280.0	296.1	320.1	2,701	3,129	3,038	22,267	25,507	
October	290.9	309.3	320.8	3,013	3,117	2,929	22,794	26,135	
November	282.2	307.0		2,702	3,091		23,805	27,389	
December	306.3	330.5		3,013	3,289		24,636	28,220	

a little above the January-June 1979 level. By mid-year, broiler production and prices could be near year-earlier levels if pork production continues at the high level anticipated and hog prices average in the mid-to-upper $30's. If broiler producers incur negative returns through early and mid-1980 as expected, production during fourth-quarter 1980 could drop below the year-earlier level. Consequently, total 1980 broiler meat output likely will be about the same as in 1979.

Broiler Price Prospects

Broiler prices in early 1979 were considerably higher than a year earlier as total meat supplies dropped below year-earlier levels and prices of competing meats remained strong. During the first quarter, the wholesale 9-city broiler price averaged 47.5 cents per pound—nearly 6 cents above a year earlier. Prices held at relatively high levels until about midyear, when they dropped sharply under the pressure of large poultry and pork supplies. During the third quarter, wholesale prices averaged nearly 6 cents below a year earlier. However, prices have increased recently, and during October-December likely will average about 41 cents. For the year, broiler prices will average near the 1978 average of 44.5 cents per pound.

During the first half of 1980, broiler prices may average in the low 40's. Broiler prices during the last half of 1980 will be greatly influenced by the level of pork production and prices. If pork production is near, or below, year-earlier levels next fall, broiler prices could rise above the 1979 level.

Consumption And Exports Up

The consumption of young chicken meat in January-September totaled 37.1 pounds per person, up almost 3-½ pounds from a year earlier. Since almost all broilers are moved through the marketing system fresh, rather than frozen, increases in production are quickly reflected in increased consumption. With broiler output expected to be up about 8 percent this fall, consumption will continue to gain. For all of 1979, broiler meat consumption is expected to total around 49 pounds per person, compared with 44.7 pounds in 1978 and 41.7 in 1977.

Exports of whole young chickens and chicken parts during January-September totaled 265 million pounds, 9 percent above last year. Like exports, shipments of young chicken meat to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands have been up. Through September, shipments totaled 105 million pounds, 12 million above 1978.

USDA Purchases

Purchases of young chicken by USDA for school lunch and other domestic food programs totaled almost 58 million pounds from August 1 through December 4, 1979. The purchases consisted of 44 million pounds of fresh frozen cut-up chicken and 14 million pounds of cooked cut-up chicken. Total cost of the program has been $33 million. During the comparable period last year, purchases totaled nearly 43 million pounds at a cost of $25 million.

Table 10—Broiler: Eggs set and broiler chicks placed weekly in 21 commercial broiler producing States, 1977-79[1]

Week*	Eggs set		Percent of previous year 1978-79	Chicks placed		Percent of previous year 1978-79
	1977-78	1978-79		1978-79	1978-79	
	Thousands		*Percent*	*Thousands*		*Percent*
November						
4	79,144	88,685	112	58,588	63,443	108
11	82,427	91,073	110	61,857	65,919	107
18	82,537	91,041	110	64,880	70,166	108
25	81,859	90,158	110	64,080	70,716	110
2	82,616	90,895	110	66,526	72,291	109
December						
9	82,360	87,280	106	66,849	72,283	108
16	83,549	92,956	111	65,958	71,430	108
23	83,291	92,359	109	66,117	73,521	111
30	84,266	87,145	103	66,170	69,215	105
January						
6	84,065	93,604	111	67,177	73,756	110
13	85,064	93,038	111	67,943	73,682	108
,20	86,067	94,104	109	68,119	73,851	108
27	86,580	93,031	107	67,903	74,316	109
February						
,3	85,691	93,832	110	68,349	74,112	108
10	87,138	97,015	111	69,275	74,826	108
,17	87,653	97,382	111	69,280	74,309	107
,24	88,369	98,006	109	69,275	74,386	107
March						
3	89,393	98,861	111	70,686	77,161	109
10	90,039	98,690	110	70,662	77,354	109
17	90,216	100,568	111	71,631	78,982	110
24	91,114	101,574	111	72,542	80,606	111
31	92,913	102,879	111	73,329	80,819	110
April						
7	94,241	103,337	110	73,068	81,531	112
14	95,116	103,306	109	74,020	81,733	110
21	95,176	103,300	109	75,372	82,454	110
28	94,723	102,796	109	76,218	83,369	110
May						
5	95,819	104,380	109	76,740	83,730	109
12	95,836	103,947	108	76,383	83,424	109
19	95,299	103,699	109	75,838	82,457	109
26	94,954	104,873	110	77,527	84,009	108
June						
2	94,966	104,888	110	77,331	83,995	109
9	95,191	103,908	109	77,396	84,315	109
16	94,044	101,736	108	76,747	84,613	110
23	90,188	96,545	107	76,546	84,809	111
30	92,479	99,108	107	76,563	84,036	110
July						
7	93,962	100,627	107	75,362	81,291	108
14	91,085	97,777	107	71,520	76,803	107
21	89,638	99,957	112	72,897	78,458	108
28	89,551	98,202	110	71,750	79,651	111
August						
4	88,725	97,601	110	69,630	78,133	112
11	87,906	96,249	109	68,142	78,769	116
18	87,484	95,697	109	68,263	77,932	114
25	87,167	95,658	110	68,883	77,338	112
September						
1	84,408	91,445	108	68,799	76,231	111
8	81,065	83,946	107	68,899	74,646	108
15	81,566	85,010	104	67,807	75,316	111
22	88,734	92,303	1-4	64,352	71,583	111
29	88,673	91,562	103	62,488	64,728	104
October						
6	85,485	88,501	104	62,525	65,612	105
13	80,555	77,620	96	69,099	72,039	104
20	83,298	79,165	95	69,653	72,993	105
27	88,755	86,829	98	67,320	70,754	105

*Weeks in 1977-78 and corresponding weeks in 1978-79.

Table 11—Young chicken supply and utilization, 1978-79

Year	Production[1]	Beginning stocks	Total supply	End stocks	Exports and shipments	Military	Civilian disappearance	Per capita
	Million pounds							*Pounds*
1978:								
January	802.7	29.4	832.1	27.5	36.0	2.2	766.4	3.55
February	735.2	27.5	762.7	21.8	32.7	2.1	706.1	3.27
March	852.2	21.8	874.0	21.8	46.1	3.1	803.0	3.72
April	789.7	21.8	811.5	22.5	33.2	2.7	753.1	3.49
May	927.2	22.5	949.7	19.8	36.3	3.4	890.2	4.12
June	898.6	19.8	918.4	21.1	31.1	2.9	863.3	3.99
July	823.2	21.1	844.3	21.7	37.2	2.3	783.1	3.62
August	956.3	21.7	978.0	20.9	44.3	2.6	910.2	4.20
September	856.7	20.9	877.6	21.1	39.2	1.7	815.6	3.76
October	920.8	21.1	941.9	22.8	40.9	1.1	877.1	4.04
November	800.0	22.8	822.8	23.2	38.3	1.5	759.8	3.50
December	788.1	23.2	811.3	20.1	42.2	4.0	745.0	3.43
1979:								
January	922.0	20.1	942.1	17.9	41.1	2.1	880.9	4.05
February	770.1	17.9	788.0	17.7	35.4	2.7	732.2	3.37
March	930.2	17.7	947.9	18.3	49.3	2.6	877.7	4.03
April	915.0	18.3	933.3	16.3	35.0	3.2	878.8	4.04
May	1,040.2	16.3	1,056.5	16.8	37.1	6.2	996.4	4.57
June	966.6	16.8	983.4	18.6	42.5	8.9	913.4	4.19
July	991.1	18.6	1,009.7	23.4	42.8	2.3	941.2	4.31
August	1,055.0	23.4	1,078.4	25.5	40.2	2.6	1,010.1	4.62
September	887.1	25.5	912.6	28.9	46.0	1.7	835.9	3.82

TURKEYS

Turkey production will expand sharply again in 1980, following an increase of over 9 percent this year. However, the increased production of turkeys and large supplies of competing meats will hold 1980 turkey prices under the 1979 level. Therefore, profit conditions faced by turkey producers in 1980 will not be nearly as favorable as those of the past 2 years. Also, profit conditions for turkey producers will not be as unfavorable as those faced by broiler producers in the coming year.

Production Up Sharply

Turkey production has increased sharply during 1979. January-June federally inspected turkey production totaled 736 million pounds, 17 percent more than a year earlier. Slaughter during the second half of this year may total over 1.4 billion pounds, 6 percent more than a year earlier. For the year, 1979 federally inspected turkey production will total almost 2.2 billion pounds, over 9 percent more than the 1978 total.

Turkey production during the first half of 1980 may be up nearly a fourth from 1979. Turkey poults hatched in October were 40 percent above a year earlier, and eggs in incubators on November 1 were up 14 percent. The rate of the percentage increase will slacken in the heavy marketing season in the second half of 1980.

Turkey Prices

Turkey prices in 1979 will average slightly above the 1978 level and the highest in recent history. Prices for 8-16 pound young hens in New York averaged about 68 cents a pound in the first half of 1979—up about 7 ½ cents from a year earlier despite the 17-percent increase in turkey output. Prices dipped during the summer but rebounded in the fall as demand continued strong. Hen prices in New York averaged over 74 cents a pound in November and were nearly 78 cents in early December.

The expected larger turkey production, combined with large supplies of other meats, probably will result in lower turkey prices in 1980. Young hen turkey prices in the first quarter of 1980 are expected to average in the mid-to-upper 60's, compared with 70 cents in 1979. Prices in the second quarter will likely drop to near 60 cents, compared

Turkey prices

Calendar quarters	Liveweight	New York, wholesale, frozen f.o.b. or equivalent		
		Young hens 8-16 lbs.	Young toms 14-20 lbs.	Young toms 24-26 lbs.
	Cents per pound			
1978				
I	37.9	60.2	59.0	62.2
II	39.4	61.4	61.0	68.5
III	43.1	68.2	67.7	70.0
IV	47.6	77.1	73.4	72.4
Year	42.0	66.7	65.3	68.3
1979				
I	45.2	70.2	70.0	72.3
II	41.8	66.2	62.8	66.6
III	38.3	63.1	57.8	63.9

Table 12—Turkey supply and consumption

Year and quarters	Federally inspected slaughter				Total production RTC[1]	Per capita consumption
	Number	Av. wt.	Live wt. lb.	Certified RTC wt.		
	Mil.	*Lbs.*	*Mil. lbs.*	*Mil. lbs.*	*Mil. lbs.*	*Lbs.*
1977						
I	15.0	17.90	267.7	209.5	222.4	1.3
II	26.3	17.58	462.2	365.4	388.3	1.4
III	46.2	18.35	847.2	672.2	714.8	2.3
IV	40.8	19.96	815.3	645.3	686.4	4.2
Year	128.3	18.65	2,392.4	1,892.5	2,011.9	9.2
1978						
I	15.3	18.84	289.2	227.8	242.0	1.3
II	28.1	17.96	504.3	399.6	424.1	1.7
III	45.8	18.69	856.2	679.7	722.6	2.3
IV	42.6	20.05	853.7	676.4	719.5	4.1
Year	131.8	18.99	2,503.4	1,983.5	2,108.2	9.4
1979						
I	18.3	18.89	345.5	271.5	288.5	1.4
II	32.4	17.99	583.3	465.5	495.4	1.9
III	48.8	17.30	845.2	720.0	766.6	2.3

[1] Total production equals federally inspected slaughter plus other slaughter minus cut-up further processing condemnations.

Table 13—Turkey hatchery operations, United States, 1978-79

Month	Poults hatched						Eggs in incubator first of month change from prev. year		
	Light breeds		Heavy breeds		Total		Light	Heavy	Total
	1978	1979	1978	1979	1978	1979	1979	1979	1979
	Thousand						*Percent*		
January	499	955	11,288	12,813	11,787	13,768	100	15	18
February	610	1,008	13,135	14,607	13,745	15,615	59	7	10
March	652	1,052	17,409	19,025	18,061	20,077	49	9	10
April	703	1,138	18,385	19,851	19,088	20,989	53	7	9
May	799	1,209	19,835	20,578	20,634	21,787	44	3	5
June	729	1,231	18,073	18,661	18,802	19,892	66	3	5
July	729	1,236	14,520	15,583	15,249	16,819	70	7	10
August	762	1,026	8,806	10,499	9,568	11,525	33	19	20
September	529	892	5,081	7,104	5,610	7,996	71	33	36
October	704	1,210	5,659	7,715	6,363	8,925	95	33	39
November	983		7,363		8,346		42	11	14
December	990		9,284		10,274				

with the 66-cent average of April-June 1979. Second half 1980 prices will depend on movement of turkey meat in the first half, second half production, and red meat prices. However, they are expected to average below the price levels in July-December 1979.

Turkey Meat Disappearance Increases

Turkey meat consumption in the first 9 months of 1979 totaled 5.7 pounds per person, compared with 5.3 pounds in the same period of 1978.

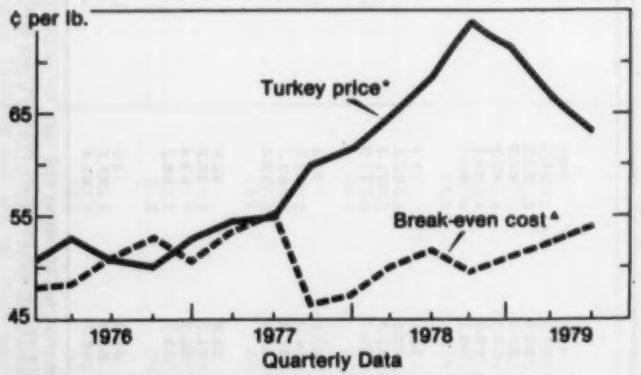
Cold storage holdings of turkey meat at the beginning of 1979 totaled 175 million pounds, up 7 million from a year earlier. On November 1, stocks at 445 million pounds were 19 million pounds above last year.

Exports of whole turkeys and turkey parts during January-September totaled 35 million pounds, about 5 percent below a year earlier. Meanwhile, shipments of turkey meat to U.S. territories showed a sizable increase but only totaled about 2.5 million pounds.

USDA Purchases

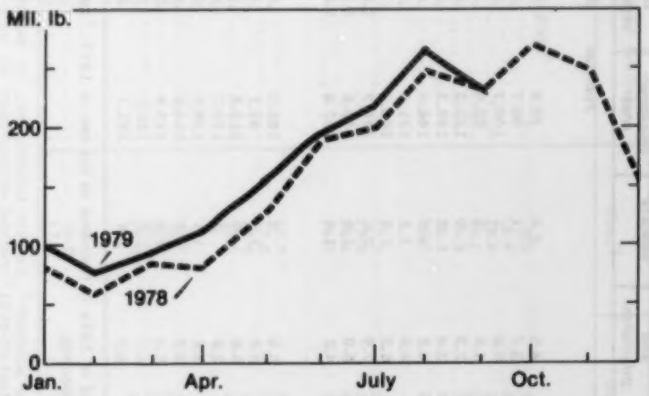
Purchases of young turkey and turkey rolls by USDA for use in the school lunch and other domestic food programs from July 11 through December 12, 1979, totaled the equivalent of 66 million pounds of whole carcass turkey. The purchases were composed of 33 million pounds of young turkey and 21 million pounds (33 million pounds RTC equivalent) of turkey rolls. Total cost of the program has been $39 million. Purchases began on August 16 last year and by December 6, 1978, totaled 51 million pounds RTC equivalent. Total costs were around $37 million.

Turkeys
Break-Even Cost and Market Price



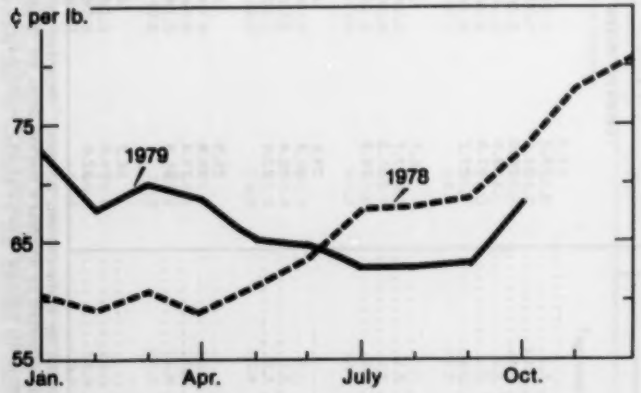
*Weighted average price in New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles of 8 - 16 pound young hens and 24 - 26 pound young toms. ▲Estimated U.S. break-even cost.

Turkey Slaughter*



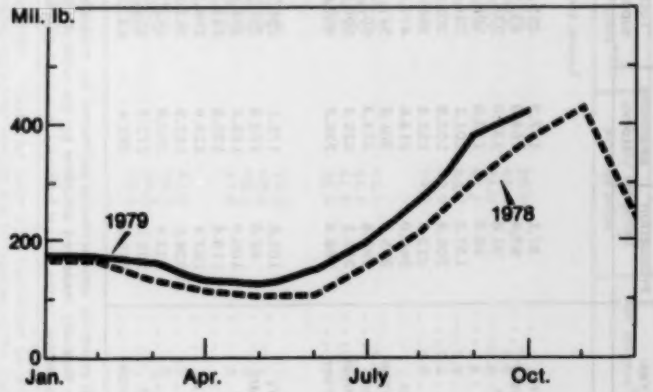
*Certified ready-to-cook, under Federal inspection.

Turkey Prices*



*Young hens 8 - 16 pounds, New York.

Turkey Cold Storage Stocks*



*First of month.

Table 14— Turkey: Supply and utilization, 1978-79

Year	Production[1]	Beginning stocks	Total supply	Ending stocks	Exports and shipments	Military	Civilian disappear-ance	Per capita
	Million pounds						*Pounds*	*Number*
1978:								
January	87.1	167.9	255.0	168.3	4.5	2.4	79.8	.37
February	63.4	168.3	231.7	136.6	3.7	.7	90.7	.42
March	91.8	133.0	228.4	113.0	6.6	.1	108.7	.50
April	85.9	113.0	198.9	101.1	4.6	.3	92.9	.43
May	137.3	101.1	238.4	103.9	2.3	.9	131.3	.61
June	201.4	103.9	305.3	152.1	3.4	.8	148.3	.69
July	212.6	152.8	365.4	213.6	3.2	2.0	146.6	.68
August	265.0	213.6	477.6	301.2	4.6	1.2	171.6	.79
September	245.9	301.2	547.1	373.3	6.2	1.4	166.2	.77
October	288.8	373.3	662.1	425.4	7.9	2.6	226.2	1.04
November	265.1	425.4	690.5	236.2	6.0	1.5	446.8	2.06
December	166.4	236.2	402.6	175.1	4.1	1.4	222.0	1.02
1979:								
January	105.6	175.1	280.7	170.9	3.9	.9	105.0	.48
February	82.0	170.9	252.9	155.6	2.8	1.4	93.1	.43
March	100.9	155.6	256.5	135.8	3.0	.9	116.8	.54
April	119.4	135.8	255.2	128.9	2.8	.8	122.7	.56
May	167.4	128.9	296.3	152.9	3.2	1.6	138.6	.64
June	208.6	152.9	361.5	200.9	3.9	2.5	154.2	.71
July	233.4	200.9	434.3	271.3	5.2	2.0	155.8	.71
August	285.0	271.3	556.3	382.4	6.1	1.2	166.6	.76
September	248.2	382.4	630.6	431.3	6.2	1.4	191.7	.88

[1] Total monthly production is estimated by multiplying the monthly federally inspected slaughter by the ratio of the annual total production to the annual federally inspected slaughter. The ratio used in 1978 is the same as the one in 1977. [2] Less than 100,000 pounds.

Table 15— Estimated costs and returns for market eggs[1]

Calendar quarters	Production costs all eggs	Wholesale, cartoned Grade A large eggs		Net returns[2 3 5]
	Feed[2]	14 metro areas Total[2]	Total costs[2 3]	price[2]	
	Cents per dozen				
Annual average[2]					
1972	17.3	28.9	43.3	40.5	-2.8
1973	29.2	41.7	58.1	64.3	6.2
1974	31.0	45.4	63.5	63.0	-0.4
1975	29.0	43.5	61.8	62.9	1.0
1976[4]	28.5	41.5	59.9	69.9	10.0
1977[4]	27.4	40.9	59.9	63.8	3.9
1978	27.2	40.9	60.1	62.2	2.1
1976[4]					
I	26.7	39.7	58.1	67.7	9.6
II	27.7	40.7	59.1	62.5	3.4
II	31.3	44.3	62.7	71.2	8.5
IV	28.3	41.3	59.7	77.9	18.2
1977[4]					
I	29.6	43.1	62.1	74.4	12.4
II	31.7	45.2	64.2	58.9	-5.2
III	25.4	38.9	57.9	62.7	4.8
IV	23.4	36.9	55.9	59.4	3.5
1978[4 5]					
I	25.9	39.6	58.8	62.0	3.2
II	28.8	42.5	61.7	55.0	6.7
III	27.4	41.1	60.3	63.4	3.1
IV	26.8	40.5	59.7	68.2	8.5
1979[5]					
I	28.2	41.9	61.3	73.0	11.7
II	29.9	43.6	63.0	67.2	4.2
III	32.6	46.3	65.7	65.4	-0.3

[1] Estimated by computerized formula. [2] Weighted by monthly egg production less estimated eggs used for hatching. [3] Based on farm cost converted to wholesale market value for Grade A large eggs. [4] 1976-78 cost and net return estimates have been revised due to changes in the method of calculation. [5] Preliminary.

Table 16—Estimated costs and returns for broilers[1]

Calendar quarters	Production costs liveweight		Wholesale ready-to-cook		Net returns[2 3 5]
	Feed[2]	Total[2]	Total costs[2 3]	9-city weighted average price[2]	
	Cents per pound				
Annual average[2]					
1972	9.0	14.3	28.2	28.2	-0.1
1973	16.4	22.2	39.8	42.4	2.6
1974	15.8	22.0	40.1	38.0	-2.0
1975	15.1	21.3	39.4	45.2	5.8
1976[4]	14.9	21.1	39.4	40.2	0.9
1977[4]	15.4	21.7	40.5	40.9	0.4
1978[4]	14.7	21.0	39.8	44.6	4.8
1976[4]					
I	13.5	19.7	37.5	42.1	4.7
II	13.9	20.1	38.0	41.7	3.7
III	16.4	22.6	41.4	41.5	0.1
IV	15.7	21.9	40.5	35.5	-5.0
1977[4]					
I	15.7	22.0	40.8	40.9	0.1
II	17.6	23.9	43.5	42.4	-1.1
III	16.0	22.3	41.3	42.3	1.0
IV	12.1	18.4	36.0	37.6	1.6
1978[4]					
I	13.9	20.2	38.7	41.8	3.1
II	15.0	21.3	40.2	47.7	7.5
III	15.4	21.7	40.8	46.5	5.7
IV	14.4	20.7	39.4	42.1	2.7
1979[5]					
I	15.2	21.6	41.0	47.4	6.4
II	16.0	22.4	42.1	47.7	5.6
III	17.2	23.6	43.7	41.1	-2.6

[1] Estimated by computerized formula. [2] Weighted by monthly broiler slaughter. [3] Based on farm cost converted to wholesale market values for ready-to-cook broilers. [4] 1976-78 cost and net return estimates have been revised due to changes in the method of calculation. [5] Preliminary.

Table 17—Estimated costs and returns for turkeys[1]

Calendar quarters	Production costs liveweight		Wholesale ready-to-cook		Net returns[2 3 5]
	Feed[2]	Total[2]	Total costs[2 3]	3-city composite price[2 4]	
	Cents per pound				
Annual average[2]					
1972	13.5	20.5	34.1	35.8	1.7
1973	25.6	33.1	50.6	64.2	13.6
1974	22.5	30.7	48.8	45.6	-3.2
1975	22.1	30.7	49.4	55.1	5.8
1976[5]	22.4	31.4	50.9	51.0	0.1
1977[5]	22.6	31.6	51.4	56.2	4.9
1978[5]	21.5	30.5	50.2	68.8	18.7
1976[5]					
I	20.1	29.1	48.0	50.9	2.9
II	20.5	29.5	48.4	52.9	4.5
III	22.6	31.6	51.1	50.8	-0.2
IV	24.1	33.1	53.0	50.2	-2.7
1977[5]					
I	22.2	31.2	50.8	52.9	2.1
II	24.5	33.5	53.6	54.4	0.8
III	25.6	34.6	55.1	54.9	-0.2
IV	18.7	27.7	46.4	59.8	13.4
1978[5 6]					
I	19.2	28.2	47.4	61.5	14.1
II	21.3	30.3	50.0	64.5	14.5
III	22.8	31.8	51.8	68.7	16.9
IV	21.0	30.0	49.6	74.0	24.4
1979					
I	21.9	31.0	51.1	71.6	20.4
II	22.9	32.0	52.5	66.4	13.9
III	23.9	33.0	53.7	63.4	9.7

[1] Estimated by computerized formula. [2] Weighted by monthly turkey slaughter. [3] Based on farm cost converted to wholesale market values for heavy young turkeys. [4] Weighted average of 8-16 young hens and 24-26 pound young toms in New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles. [5] 1976-78 cost and net return estimates have been revised due to changes in the method of calculation. [6] Preliminary.

Table 18– Prices and price spreads for large eggs, frying chickens and medium turkeys, by regions and 4-region average

Item	Grade A large eggs			U.S. grade A fryers			U.S. grade A 8-16 lb. turkeys		
	July 1979	August 1979	September 1979	July 1979	August 1979	September 1979	July 1979	August 1979	September 1979
	Cents per pound			*Cents per pound*			*Cents per pound*		
Northeast prices									
Farm price	50.9	51.3	51.9	32.4	30.6	30.3	52.6	50.3	52.3
Price to retailer	64.4	66.5	65.7	47.9	45.5	46.6	67.2	67.7	67.4
Retail price	89.9	86.0	85.6	68.0	64.5	64.5	92.6	90.5	88.0
Price spreads									
Farm to consumer	39.0	34.7	33.7	35.6	33.9	34.2	39.4	40.2	35.7
Farm to retailer	13.5	15.2	13.8	15.5	14.9	16.3	14.6	17.4	15.1
Retail	25.5	19.5	19.9	20.1	19.0	17.9	24.8	22.8	20.6
Midwest prices									
Farm price	49.0	50.9	50.4	31.7	30.1	29.0	52.6	50.5	52.4
Price to retailer	62.6	64.3	63.5	47.8	44.1	44.1	69.6	65.8	69.2
Retail price	75.3	83.0	78.3	66.0	64.5	61.0	89.0	87.5	88.0
Price spreads									
Farm to consumer	26.3	32.1	27.9	34.3	34.4	32.0	36.4	37.0	35.6
Farm to retailer	13.6	13.4	13.1	16.1	14.0	15.1	17.0	15.3	16.8
Retail	12.7	18.7	14.8	18.2	20.4	16.9	19.4	21.7	18.8
Southern prices									
Farm price	42.6	48.2	43.8	31.0	30.2	28.0	52.6	50.5	52.3
Price to retailer	67.6	68.1	69.4	43.9	40.1	40.2	77.5	70.3	79.0
Retail price	79.0	81.5	81.8	70.5	63.0	67.5	88.5	89.0	88.5
Price spreads									
Farm to consumer	36.4	33.3	38.0	39.5	32.8	39.5	35.9	38.5	36.2
Farm to retailer	25.0	19.9	25.6	12.9	9.9	12.2	24.9	19.8	26.7
Retail	11.4	13.4	12.4	26.6	22.9	27.3	11.0	18.7	9.5
Western prices									
Farm price	47.5	51.1	53.1	35.6	34.1	35.2	52.1	50.0	51.6
Price to retailer	66.6	66.4	71.8	58.7	54.1	53.6	71.9	71.4	71.0
Retail price	82.3	79.3	80.3	70.5	65.5	65.5	92.0	93.0	92.0
Price spreads									
Farm to consumer	34.8	28.2	27.2	34.9	31.4	30.3	39.9	43.0	40.4
Farm to retailer	19.1	15.3	18.7	23.1	20.0	18.4	19.8	21.4	19.4
Retail	15.7	12.9	8.5	11.8	11.4	11.9	20.1	21.6	21.0
4-region average									
Farm price	47.5	50.4	49.8	32.7	31.3	30.6	52.5	50.3	52.2
Price to retailer	65.3	66.3	67.6	49.6	46.0	46.1	71.6	68.8	71.7
Retail price	81.6	82.5	81.5	68.8	64.4	64.6	90.4	90.0	89.1
Price spreads									
Farm to consumer	34.1	32.1	31.7	36.1	33.1	34.0	37.9	39.7	36.9
Farm to retailer	17.8	15.9	17.8	16.9	14.7	15.5	19.1	18.5	19.5
Retail	16.3	16.2	13.9	19.2	18.4	18.5	18.8	21.2	17.4

ENERGY COSTS IN BROILER PROCESSING PLANTS: CURRENT TRENDS AND PROSPECTS

ABSTRACT: Energy conservation and energy use are important in determining efficiency and costs of broiler processing plants. In-plant energy costs, fuel for transportation, conservation practices and storage facilities, and trends and future prospects are explored for broiler processing plants in the Southern region of the U.S. While in-plant energy costs, with current levels of energy usage, could increase 44 percent between 1979 and 1985, successful conservation efforts could reduce these costs significantly.
KEYWORDS: Poultry, broilers, energy costs.

INTRODUCTION

Over a period of years, poultry processing plants in this country have adopted new and improved technology to increase efficiency, improve product quality, and meet more stringent environmental standards. Much of this technology has been capital and energy intensive to help reduce labor requirements and improve overall productivity. As a result of the energy crisis, however, there is increased interest in ways to conserve and use energy in its most efficient manner. This article presents the results of a recent survey of energy use and costs in broiler processing plants in the South plus a look at future prospects for costs based on projections over the next several years.

In the fall of 1978 a comprehensive mail survey of energy use in food processing and marketing firms was initiated by the Economics, Statistics, and Cooperatives Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture in cooperation with four universities, one in each major region of the country. They were: Pennsylvania State University, University of Georgia, University of Missouri, and Washington State University. A mail survey was used to collect information on energy use and costs for a variety of food processing and marketing firms. The preliminary results of this survey for those broiler processing firms reporting in the Southern region are presented.

In-Plant Energy Use and Costs

Eight broiler processing plants in the Southern region responded to the survey, and reported that average fuel consumption was 8.31 therms per 1,000 pounds processed (ready-to-cook weight), and average electricity use was 102 kilowatt hours per 1,000 pounds processed (table A-1). Substantial economies of scale in the use of energy were evident, with fuel usage ranging from 11.36 therms per 1,000 pounds in small plants to 5.23 therms in large plants. Electricity consumption showed a similar pattern with usage of 118 kilowatt hours per 1,000 pounds in small plants and 94 kilowatt hours in large plants.

All plants in the survey used natural gas as their primary fuel, but three plants used number 5 fuel oil as a supplement during the winter months. Fuel oil usage by these three plants ranged from 8 to 12 percent of their total fuel usage for the year. The average annual fuel consumption for the eight plants in the survey was 406,000 therms with an annual cost of $75,900. Average fuel cost per therm ranged from 16.76 to 20.66 cents depending on plant size, level of use, and the rate structure of suppliers. Plants using supplemental fuel oil had somewhat higher costs per therm since natural gas

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Table A-1. Annual Energy Consumption and Costs in Broiler Processing Plants in the South, by Size of Plant, 1977-78 1/

Item	Units	Size of Plant			
		Small	Medium	Large	Average
Processing Plants	number	3	3	2	8
Average Volume Processed	mil. lbs.	33.8	46.7	74.6	48.8
Natural Gas and Fuel Oil 2/					
Quantity Used	000 therms	384	427	390	406
Annual Costs	000 dollars	79.3	77.3	65.4	75.9
Average Cost per Therm	cents	20.66	18.10	16.76	18.70
Usage per 1,000 lbs.	therms	11.36	9.14	5.23	8.31
Annual Cost per lb.	cents	.235	.165	.088	.155
Electricity					
Quantity Used	000 KWH's	3,988	4,997	7,012	4,978
Annual Costs	000 dollars	93.7	186.4	145.9	144.4
Average Cost per KWH	cents	2.35	3.73	2.08	2.90
Usage per 1,000 lbs.	KWH's	188	107	94	102
Annual Cost per lb.	cents	.277	.399	.196	.296
Total In-Plant Energy Use 3/					
Quantity Used	000 therms	520.1	597.6	629.3	575.9
Annual Costs	000 dollars	163.5	263.6	211.2	220.3
Average Cost per Therm	cents	31.44	44.11	33.56	38.25
Usage per 1,000 lbs.	therms	15.39	12.79	8.44	11.79
Annual Cost per lb.	cents	.484	.565	.283	.451

1/ Based on mail survey of processing plants located in Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Tennessee, Texas, Arkansas, Mississippi, and Louisiana.
2/ Natural gas was the primary fuel used by all plants with fuel oil used intermittently by three plants during winter months (which accounted for 8 to 12 percent of their total fuel use). Fuel units were converted to therms on basis of 10.24 therms per 1,000 cubic feet of natural gas, 1.4 therms per gallon for No. 2 fuel oil, and 1.5 therms per gallon for No. 5 or 6 fuel oil.
3/ Electrically units were converted to therms on basis of .03413 therms per kilowatt hour. One therm is equal to 100,000 BTU's of energy.

costs for the plants in this study averaged 18.76 cents per therm and fuel oil costs averaged 25.64 cents per therm (or 38.46 cents per gallon). Fuel costs per pound ranged from .235 cents in small plants to .088 cents in large plants, with an overall average of .155 cents per pound (table A-1).

Electricity consumption for these plants ranged from 4.0 to 7.0 million kilowatt hours annually with yearly costs varying from $93,700 to $186,400 depending on plant size and other factors (table A-1). Average electricity consumption was 102 kilowatt hours per 1,000 pounds of poultry processed, with somewhat higher usage in the smaller plants. Electricity rates varied from 2.08 to 3.73 cents per kilowatt hour, depending on plant location, level of use, source of power, and other factors. Electricity costs per pound ranged from .196 to .399 cents, with an overall average of .296 cents per pound processed.

With fuel and electricity combined, total in-plant energy usage was 575,900 therms per year with annual costs of $220,300 for an average size plant reporting (table A-1). Consumption rates per 1,000 pounds processed varied from 15.39 therms in small plants to 8.44 therms in large plants; the overall average was 11.79 therms. Total in-plant energy costs ranged from .283 to .565 cents per pound processed, with an average of .451 cents. Natural gas and fuel oil accounted for 70 percent of total in-plant energy use and 34 percent of total energy costs. Electricity accounted for only 30 percent of the in-plant energy used but 66 percent of energy costs. Since fuel accounts for the greater proportion of energy used, fuel conservation efforts may yield greater overall energy savings in terms of BTU's, but electricity conservation is likely to produce the greatest cost savings.

Fuel Used for Transportation

Processing plants have a variety of systems for assembly and distribution of their products. Nearly all of the reporting plants assembled poultry by plant-owned or leased trucks. Some processors also have live poultry delivered to them by trucking firms or producers. Most processing plants used independent trucking firms to deliver ready-to-cook poultry to distant markets. However, some plants maintain plant-owned or leased trucks for local deliveries and/or long distance distribution. Other transportation functions associated with processing operations include field service, office use, and miscellaneous.

Usable data on fuel used for transportation was obtained from seven companies. Two companies who assembled poultry with their own trucks used about 4.5 gallons of fuel per 1,000 pounds hauled, with about equal amounts of gasoline and diesel fuel being used (table A-2). Annual usage per firm for assembly was about 208,300 gallons at a cost of $105,000 per year or .227 cents per pound hauled. The three companies who delivered poultry used 5.97 gallons per 1,000 pounds hauled, with the majority of the fuel being gasoline rather than diesel fuel. Annual usage per firm for delivery (with company owned or leased trucks) was 127,700 gallons at a cost of $67,400 per year or .315 cents per pound hauled. Other miscellaneous fuel used by these companies averaged .61 gallons per 1,000 pounds of poultry processed by the plant. Total fuel used for transportation functions averaged 11.08 gallons per 1,000 pounds hauled with an average annual cost of .577 cents per pound (table A-2).

Conservation Practices and Storage Facilities

The processing plants in the survey were asked specific questions about energy conservation practices and storage facilities. All of the plants responding had made conscious efforts to conserve energy (table A-3). About half of these plants considered their efforts to be moderately successful (with usage reduced 5-15 percent), and the others reported their efforts to be somewhat successful (usage reduced less than 5 percent). Six plants reported that they had dual firing equipment for fuel oil and natural gas conversion. Only three plants had made any further contingency plans in the event of future energy curtailments (table A-3).

Nearly all of the plants reported adequate energy supplies in the previous winter (1977), and only three plants had increased their storage capacities since then. About half of the plants surveyed had storage capacity for gasoline, diesel fuel, and fuel oil. Two plants had storage facilities for LP gas. Average storage capacities for these various forms of fuel are presented in table A-3. These plants reported long term plans for energy conservation involving the following: (1) installation of more energy-efficient equipment, (2) substitution of diesel fuel for gasoline, (3) consideration of solar energy possibilities, (4) cooperating in company-wide engineering plans, and (5) general conservation practices using present facilities.

Trends and Future Prospects

In recent years, poultry processing plants have undergone many changes in practices and production techniques, and they have been attempting to conserve energy since the energy crisis began. However, there are wide variations in plant facilities and practices, and it is not always possible to determine the extent or success of conservation efforts from sample surveys of these plants. However, it is possible to establish trends

Table A-2. Annual Fuel and Costs for Transportation Functions Performed by Broiler Processing Plants in the South, 1977-78 1/

Item	Units	Transportation Function 2/			
		Assembly	Delivery	Other	Total 3/
Processing Plants	number	2	3	2	7
Average Volume Hauled	mil. lbs.	46.3	21.4	58.3	40.5
Gasoline 4/					
Quantity Used	000 gallons	106.0	115.1	29.7	250.8
Annual Costs	000 dollars	55.2	61.0	17.5	133.7
Average Cost per gal.	cents	52.10	52.96	59.03	53.31
Usage per 1,000 lbs.	gallons	2.29	5.38	.51	8.18
Annual Cost per lb.	cents	.119	.285	.030	.434
Diesel Fuel 4/					
Quantity Used	000 gallons	102.3	12.6	5.8	120.7
Annual Costs	000 dollars	49.8	6.4	3.3	59.5
Average Cost per gal.	cents	48.64	50.54	56.50	49.30
Usage per 1,000 lbs.	gallons	2.21	.59	.10	2.90
Annual Cost per lb.	cents	.108	.030	.005	.143
Total Gasoline and Diesel 4/					
Quantity Used	000 gallons	208.3	127.7	35.5	371.5
Annual Costs	000 dollars	105.0	67.4	20.8	193.2
Average Cost per gal.	cents	50.41	52.78	58.59	52.0
Usage per 1,000 lbs.	gallons	4.50	5.97	.61	11.08
Annual Cost per lb.	cents	.227	.315	.035	.557

1/ Based on records of gasoline and diesel fuel used and estimates of volume of poultry hauled from results of mail survey of processing plants.

2/ Does not include feed or chick delivery. Other represents some field service, plant and office use, and miscellaneous.

3/ Reflects total usage and costs for the three functions combined. No individual plant reported figures of this magnitude.

4/ Figures reflect average quantities and costs per firm for amounts of poultry hauled by the firm.

Table A-3. Energy Conservation Practices and Fuel Storage Facilities for Broiler Processing Plants in the South, 1977-78 1/

Item	Description	Number of plants
(1)	Plants that made conscious effort to conserve energy needs	8
	Moderately successful (reduced usage 5-15%)	4
	Somewhat successful (reduced usage less than 5%)	3
(2)	Plants with dual firing equipment	6
(3)	Plants with contingency plans available	3
	Short term plans (less than 3 months)	2
	intermediate term plans (3-6 months)	1
(4)	Plants with adequate energy supplies last winter	7
(5)	Plants with current storage capacity for:	
	Fuel oil ..... 3 Average storage capacity ..... 14,467 gals.	
	Diesel fuel ..... 4 " " " ..... 6,438 gals.	
	Gasoline ..... 5 " " " ..... 10,200 gals.	
	LP Gas ..... 2 " " " ..... 1,625 gals.	
(6)	Plants that increased fuel storage capacities since 1977	3
(7)	Long term plans for energy conservation:	
	Install energy efficient equipment	1
	Substitute diesel fuel for gasoline	1
	Consider use of solar energy	1
	General company-wide engineering plan	1
	Conservation practices using present system	1

1/ Based on mail survey of 8 poultry processing plants. Not all plants responded to all questions.

and usage rates for energy consumption and costs from these surveys.

In an earlier study of 22 plants in the 1974-76 period[3], fuel use in broiler processing plants averaged 7.41 therms per 1,000 pounds processed (ready-to-cook weight), with electricity use averaging 115 kilowatt hours (table A-4). Total energy costs for in-plant operations averaged .381 cents per pound based on this study[3]. Another study made in 1976-77 [8] showed similar results, although fuel consumption was somewhat higher, averaging about 8.71 therms per 1,000 pounds processed; electricity usage was lower, however, averaging about 103 kilowatt hours per 1,000 pounds processed[8]. Fuel costs per pound were substantially higher in the 1976-77 study, however, which reflects primarily a 50 percent increase in fuel prices per therm. Costs per pound for electricity were down slightly, however, due to lower usage and only moderate increases in electrical rates. In the 1977-78 survey (reported in this article), the results are similar to those found in 1976-77 except for continued increases in costs for fuel and electricity. Fuel prices increased another 12.6 percent, and electricity prices increased 8.6 percent. Total in-plant energy costs per pound have therefore increased 18.4 percent between 1974-76 and 1977-78 (table A-4).

Future increases in fuel and electricity prices are expected to continue. Industrial rates for natural gas have increased very rapidly in the last several years, from 5.0 to 6.6 cents per therm in 1973-74 to 13.2 cents per therm in 1976 and 22.2 cents per therm in 1979 [1 and 4]. As a result of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978, it is likely that U.S. prices will more than double again from current levels to at least 56.5 cents per therm by 1990[2]. At these rates of increase, fuel prices for processing plants could easily reach 36.1 cents per therm by 1985, as projected in table A-4.

Fuel oil prices have also increased greatly in recent years as a result of higher crude oil costs and a greater world demand for energy products. Since 1972, fuel oil prices have more than tripled, rising from 18.3 to 62.5 cents per gallon in 1979 (or from 12.6 to 43.1 cents per therm) [5 and 6]. These prices are expected to double again by 1990 as a result of decontrol of domestic oil prices, higher crude oil prices imposed by the OPEC nations, and a continued worldwide oil shortage[4]. Plants using fuel oil can therefore expect price increases of similar magnitude to plants using natural gas as their primary fuel, even though the price differences on a per therm basis may become smaller over time.

Electricity rates in the United States have also increased rapidly in the last several years after a long period of stability that dates back many decades. Average industrial rates in the United States for 1,000 KW-200,000 KWH consumption levels more than doubled between 1973 and 1978, rising from 2.2 to 4.5 cents per kilowatt hour[7]. Rates in the South have been about 15 to 20 percent lower than the U.S. average, however, which is reflected in the rates of processing plants in table A-4. Further increases in electrical rates are likely in the years ahead as rising fuel costs and inflationary conditions in the economy continue to persist[4]. Rates for processing plants in the South could therefore increase at least 35 percent between 1979 and 1985, or from 3.30 to 4.45 cents per kilowatt hour (table A-4).

Given the prospects for higher energy prices, then, if fuel consumption rates by broiler processing plants continue at current levels, fuel costs per pound of poultry processed could easily increase 62 percent between 1979 and 1985, from .181 to .294 cents per pound (table A-4). Electricity costs could also increase by 35 percent by 1985, rising from .353 to .476 cents per pound of poultry processed. Thus, with current levels of energy usage, total in-plant energy costs could increase 44 percent between 1979 and 1985. Successful conservation efforts could reduce these cost increases significantly, however, and many processing plants are already involved in energy conservation programs that could produce substantial benefits.

Table A-4. Average Annual Energy Consumption and Costs in Broiler Processing Plants in the South, Selected Periods, 1974-79, with Projections to 1985

Item	Units	1974-76 1/	1976-77 2/	1977-78 3/	1979 4/	1985 4/
Processing Plants	number	22	3	8	--	--
Annual Volume per Plant	mil. lbs.	59.9	62.0	48.8	60.0	60.0
Natural Gas and Fuel Oil						
Quantity Use per 1,000 lbs.	therms	7.41	8.71	8.31	8.14	8.14
Average Fuel Price	cents/therm	11.14	16.6	18.7	22.2	36.1
Annual Cost per lb.	cents	.082	.144	.155	.181	.294
Electricity						
Quantity Use per 1,000 lbs.	KWH's	115	103	102	107	107
Average Electricity Price	cents/KWH	2.61	2.67	2.90	3.30	4.45
Annual Cost per lb.	cents	.299	.275	.296	.353	.476
Total Energy Costs	cents/lb.	.381	.419	.451	.534	.770

1/ Data from Energy Use and Costs in Broiler Processing Plants in the South, Research Bul. 205, Harold B. Jones, Jr. and Steve R. Lee, University of Georgia Agricultural Experiment Stations, Athens, Georgia, October 1977.
2/ Data from Energy Requirements for Processing Poultry, ASAE Technical Paper No. 78-3039, W.K. Whitehead and W.L. Shupe, Richard B. Russell Agricultural Research Center, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Athens, Georgia, June 27-30, 1978.
3/ Based on mail survey of processing plants as reported in this article. See Table 1.
4/ Based on projected energy prices and average energy consumption rates from the previous three studies.

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[1] American Gas Association, *Gas Facts*, Annual Issues 1973-77.

[2] American Gas Association, *Forecast of Economic Demand for Gas Energy in the U.S.*, Arlington, Virginia, February 1979.

[3] Jones, Harold B., Jr., and Steve R. Lee, *Energy Use and Costs in Broiler Processing Plants in the South*, Research Bulletin 205, University of Georgia Agricultural Experiment Stations, Athens, Georgia, October 1977.

[4] Jones, Harold B., Jr., *Energy Use and Costs in Poultry Rendering Plants in the South*, Research Bulleting in Process, University of Georgia Agricultural Experiment Stations, Athens, Ga., June 1979.

[5] U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, *Annual Price Summaries*, Crop Reporting Board, Economics, Statistics, and Cooperatives Service, Washington, D.C., 1956-1978.

[6] U.S. Dept. of Energy, *Monthly Energy Review*, Energy Information Administration, Washington, D.C., March 1979.

[7] U.S. Dept. of Energy, *Typical Electric Bills - 1978*, Energy Information Administration, Washington, D.C., August 1978. Annual Issues for Previous Years Published by Federal Power Commission, Washington, D.C.

[8] Whitehead, W. K., and W. L. Shupe, *Energy Requirements for Processing Poultry*, Paper No. 78-3039, Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers, Utah State University, Logan, Utah, June 27-30, 1978.

Table 19—Selected poultry and egg statistics*

Item	Data in—	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Table 1.—Eggs: Production and disposition														
Number of layers:														
First of month														
1977	Mil.	280.0	276.8	275.0	273.8	270.2	268.4	266.2	268.5	274.3	279.4	282.6	286.6	
1978	Mil.	287.5	283.9	280.7	279.4	277.9	277.1	274.1	274.4	277.8	283.0	287.7	292.2	
1979	Mil.	290.4	291.3	289.3	287.2	283.2	279.9	280.0	281.1	281.0	286.7	287.8		
Average for month														
1977	Mil.	278.4	275.9	274.4	272.0	269.3	267.3	267.4	271.4	276.8	281.0	284.6	287.0	275.5
1978	Mil.	285.7	282.3	280.0	278.7	277.5	275.6	274.3	276.1	280.4	285.3	289.9	291.3	281.4
1979	Mil.	290.8	290.3	288.3	286.2	281.6	280.0	280.6	281.0	283.8	287.2			
Eggs per 100 layers:														
First of month														
1977	No.	63.5	62.7	64.6	65.7	65.7	65.4	64.5	63.6	64.0	64.0	64.4	65.1	
1978	No.	65.3	64.3	64.7	66.5	66.3	66.5	65.4	64.6	65.2	65.0	64.8	65.5	
1979	No.	65.5	64.6	65.0	66.6	66.2	66.7	66.0	65.4	65.5	64.9	65.1		
Average for month														
1977	No.	1,956	1,782	2,021	1,971	2,034	1,950	1,986	1,978	1,921	1,990	1,944	2,021	23,554
1978	No.	2,009	1,808	2,034	1,993	2,061	1,979	2,016	2,012	1,954	2,011	1,956	2,033	23,866
1979	No.	2,019	1,816	2,041	1,993	2,061	1,991	2,038	2,031	1,957	2,016			
Monthly egg production														
1977	Mil. doz.	453.9	409.7	462.2	446.8	456.5	434.4	442.5	447.4	443.2	466.0	461.2	483.4	5,407
1978	Mil. doz.	478.2	425.2	474.7	462.8	476.7	454.5	460.7	462.8	456.5	478.2	472.5	493.5	5,596
1979	Mil. doz.	469.2	439.3	490.3	473.7	483.6	464.5	476.4	475.5	462.8	482.5			
Eggs used for hatching														
1977	Mil. doz.	32.1	38.3	38.9	39.8	37.3	35.5	34.9	33.3	34.5	33.0	35.3	36.6	429
1978	Mil. doz.	33.8	39.2	40.2	43.0	40.6	38.8	38.5	36.0	37.4	36.3	38.8	40.3	463
1979	Mil. doz.	37.0	43.6	43.5	45.9	44.2	42.2	42.3	37.6					
Eggs broken commercially														
1977	Mil. doz.	43.9	45.6	56.3	57.0	65.0	70.1	61.3	64.2	58.8	54.8	56.0	53.2	686
1978	Mil. doz.	53.9	47.1	53.8	53.1	65.6	71.4	58.8	64.2	56.9	58.7	50.7	51.9	686
1979	Mil. doz.	54.8	47.3	53.1	53.2	62.9	66.0	65.2	67.8	55.9				
Cold Storage stocks:														
Frozen egg products														
1977	Mil. lbs.	26.1	26.9	24.9	24.6	25.3	28.0	31.4	35.1	35.4	33.7	33.4	31.2	
1978	Mil. lbs.	29.7	27.0	25.5	22.9	22.9	22.2	26.6	28.0	28.7	28.7	27.6	25.6	
1979	Mil. lbs.	25.3	25.6	24.5	21.1	21.7	21.6	22.8	25.8	24.7				
Shell eggs														
1977	Mil. doz.	.8	.8	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.0	1.2	1.2	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.5	
1978	Mil. doz.	1.2	1.0	.8	.8	1.1	.9	.8	.8	1.4	1.3	.7	1.1	
1979	Mil. doz.	1.1	.7	.5	.7	.6	.8	.7	1.0	.8				
Shell equivalent all eggs[1]														
1977	Mil. doz.	20.7	21.2	20.2	19.9	20.5	22.2	25.0	27.8	28.3	27.1	26.9	25.2	
1978	Mil. doz.	23.7	21.5	20.2	18.1	18.5	17.7	21.0	22.0	23.2	23.1	21.7	20.5	
1979	Mil. doz.	20.3	20.1	19.1	16.7	17.1	17.2	18.0	20.6	19.6				
Exports:														
Shell eggs														
1977	Mil. doz.	2.5	2.1	3.6	2.9	3.6	4.2	4.4	4.3	5.1	5.2	5.3	4.9	48
1978	Mil. doz.	7.1	2.6	4.6	3.5	5.2	3.1	2.7	2.8	4.2	4.8	3.3	2.8	47
1979	Mil. doz.	2.7	2.5	2.7	3.2	3.3	3.0	2.9	3.4	3.5				
Shell equivalent all eggs[1]														
1977	Mil. doz.	3.1	2.5	4.4	3.9	5.7	6.1	6.4	6.4	7.6	6.5	6.7	7.5	67
1978	Mil. doz.	11.8	8.1	11.8	8.5	9.7	7.1	6.2	5.4	6.7	8.7	6.6	6.0	97
1979	Mil. doz.	5.5	6.0	6.2	6.8	5.3	5.2	6.7	5.7	6.1				
Per capita consumption:														
Shell eggs														
1977	No.	20.9	17.9	20.1	19.2	19.4	18.1	19.1	19.1	19.0	20.7	20.2	21.4	235
1978	No.	21.1	18.6	20.7	20.0	20.3	18.7	19.9	19.7	19.8	20.8	20.7	21.8	242
1979	No.	21.7	18.9	21.3	20.3	20.2	19.1	20.1	19.9					
All eggs[1]														
1977	No.	23.3	20.5	23.2	22.2	22.7	21.8	22.2	22.5	22.2	23.6	23.3	24.2	272
1978	No.	23.9	21.0	23.4	22.6	23.7	22.2	22.8	23.1	22.8	23.8	23.4	24.5	277
1979	No.	24.5	21.3	24.2	23.0	23.6	22.5	23.3	23.5					
Table 2.—Eggs: Prices for shell eggs and egg products														
Shell eggs (price per dozen):														
Received by farmers, U.S.[2] [3]														
1977	Cents	66.1	65.5	58.9	55.4	49.2	47.3	50.9	51.6	52.3	47.8	51.2	53.3	54.2
1978	Cents	49.2	54.7	54.8	51.7	49.2	43.7	49.6	52.7	54.4	52.7	58.0	61.6	52.7
1979	Cents	60.3	60.1	64.3	60.2	56.7	55.6	53.4	52.3	54.8	52.2	57.4		
Midwest cities, large eggs, paid by first receivers[4]														
1977	Cents	78.5	75.4	67.0	62.6	55.1	54.6	61.6	60.9	61.7	55.6	57.8	62.7	62.8
1978	Cents	57.2	65.0	64.1	58.1	53.4	50.6	61.8	62.9	64.2	61.5	67.1	72.5	61.5
1979	Cents	71.8	69.9	73.6	69.9	63.6	64.6	64.2	66.4	65.4				

*See footnotes at end of table.

Table 19—Selected poultry and egg statistics*—Continued

Item	Date in—	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Table 2.—Eggs: Prices for shell eggs and egg products—Continued														
Price to volume buyers, cartoned Grade A large[5]														
13-metro areas														
1977	Cents	78.98	76.61	67.99	63.28	56.09	57.52	63.07	62.67	62.49	56.33	58.44	63.34	63.90
1978	Cents	57.86	64.05	64.31	59.04	54.62	51.34	61.75	63.45	64.97	62.34	68.76	73.30	62.15
1979	Cents	72.79	70.17	75.66	71.33	64.34	66.08	64.45	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)		
New York														
1977	Cents	81.04	76.25	67.39	61.38	55.05	57.00	62.35	61.35	60.81	56.05	56.57	64.05	63.27
1978	Cents	57.15	64.94	64.00	57.90	52.86	50.62	62.75	62.75	63.75	62.14	68.75	72.65	61.68
1979	Cents	72.50	68.00	75.14	69.57	62.55	66.10	64.00	67.00	64.74	63.18			
Chicago														
1977	Cents	78.74	75.55	67.50	62.45	55.69	57.00	62.75	59.33	59.29	53.68	55.05	61.52	62.38
1978	Cents	55.19	62.84	62.04	56.95	52.00	49.29	61.15	61.78	63.20	60.81	67.15	71.65	60.34
1979	Cents	71.27	67.68	73.50	68.71	61.91	64.81	61.90	64.03	61.96	59.71			
Los Angeles, Grade AA														
1977	Cents	78.29	76.47	70.13	67.29	61.05	64.00	66.50	69.00	68.30	60.68	65.10	65.62	67.70
1978	Cents	60.14	62.74	66.43	61.00	60.41	53.40	62.10	64.11	66.90	64.10	71.15	76.10	64.05
1979	Cents	75.91	75.47	80.14	77.43	69.27	68.10	66.00	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)		
Egg products (price per lb.):														
Frozen, New York—Philadelphia[6]														
Whole, light colored														
1977	Cents	50.47	48.28	45.46	41.61	41.11	39.53	38.56	37.19	37.08	36.14	37.50	36.03	40.66
1978	Cents	33.12	34.29	35.89	37.50	37.91	36.50	37.79	40.33	40.72	41.34	46.31	47.19	39.07
1979	Cents	43.25	41.36	42.94	42.56	44.53	43.31	42.31	41.17	43.57	42.81			
Whites														
1977	Cents	32.31	32.16	31.03	30.19	30.69	29.75	28.76	27.17	26.47	25.39	25.97	25.06	28.75
1978	Cents	24.50	25.57	27.00	28.34	29.47	27.41	28.29	30.28	31.38	32.00	35.53	36.31	29.67
1979	Cents	35.03	34.00	34.39	34.66	35.47	34.17	33.44	33.25	33.14	32.19			
Yolks, sugared														
1977	Cents	79.20	76.62	71.78	65.50	64.11	63.00	63.19	62.50	63.03	61.75	62.53	59.31	66.04
1978	Cents	55.16	54.96	54.83	55.59	55.75	54.03	54.86	57.50	59.56	60.38	65.50	66.44	57.88
1979	Cents	62.06	60.57	62.78	63.62	64.75	64.39	65.06	65.18	67.86	68.88			
Dried, New York														
Whole														
1977	Dollars	2.04	2.00	(7)	1.64	1.65	1.63	1.62	1.56	1.52	1.46	1.51	1.43	(7)
1978	Dollars	1.37	1.38	1.44	1.50	1.53	1.47	1.51	1.61	1.63	1.62	1.73	1.80	1.55
1979	Dollars	1.71	1.68	1.68	1.71	1.74	1.76	1.78	1.74	1.74	1.74			
Yolks														
1977	Dollars	2.05	1.98	1.90	1.58	1.60	1.61	1.58	1.54	1.52	1.46	1.50	1.42	1.64
1978	Dollars	1.33	1.37	1.44	1.45	1.45	1.40	1.43	1.50	1.54	1.54	1.61	1.62	1.47
1979	Dollars	1.52	1.49	1.49	1.54	1.58	1.56	1.57	1.56	1.64	1.68			
Albumen, spray dried														
1977	Dollars	2.66	2.61	2.55	2.48	2.47	2.43	2.38	2.27	2.21	2.08	2.01	1.96	2.34
1978	Dollars	1.88	1.91	2.08	2.33	2.37	2.31	2.34	2.48	2.55	2.61	2.71	2.83	2.37
1979	Dollars	2.77	2.69	2.70	2.73	2.77	2.77	2.77	2.72	2.73	2.74			
Table 3.—Poultry: Slaughter in federally inspected plants														
Young chicken:														
Number inspected														
1977	Mil.	255.8	241.5	284.9	268.6	292.0	308.8	277.3	318.6	288.5	273.4	258.6	266.2	3,334
1978	Mil.	276.5	257.5	297.3	271.6	319.9	317.6	293.1	335.5	293.4	309.8	274.5	269.6	3,516
1979	Mil.	317.3	268.6	321.4	315.7	360.0	334.8	344.2	366.2	298.2	356.3			
Liveweight pounds														
1977	Mil. lbs.	989	913	1,083	1,028	1,115	1,162	1,029	1,199	1,111	1,068	997	1,045	12,741
1978	Mil. lbs.	1,084	993	1,149	1,066	1,245	1,209	1,107	1,287	1,147	1,233	1,075	1,063	13,656
1979	Mil. lbs.	1,247	1,041	1,253	1,232	1,400	1,305	1,338	1,418	1,195	1,432			
Certified ready-to-cook														
1977	Mil. lbs.	713.8	659.2	783.2	744.9	809.9	843.7	745.5	870.4	808.2	775.5	719.8	753.2	9,227
1978	Mil. lbs.	781.4	715.7	830.0	769.1	902.6	874.9	801.7	930.8	834.0	896.4	779.1	767.3	9,883
1979	Mil. lbs.	897.3	749.1	905.0	889.8	1,013.5	940.7	965.3	10,263	8,632	1,038.0			
Cut-up, ready-to-cook weight														
1977	Mil. lbs.	246.8	247.0	304.9	282.9	304.6	315.6	270.1	355.0	307.9	296.6	288.4	301.6	3,522
1978	Mil. lbs.	309.4	273.6	326.3	294.0	326.6	320.2	293.1	341.2	310.4	335.0	310.4	296.9	3,717
1979	Mil. lbs.	335.5	288.6	355.7	310.9	370.5	335.7	326.3	376.4	298.4	342.4			
Further processed, RTC weight														
1977	Mil. lbs.	50.5	52.9	66.5	58.3	53.1	67.8	59.8	65.8	60.3	60.4	61.0	59.9	716
1978	Mil. lbs.	92.4	58.6	66.5	62.2	72.9	78.3	70.1	76.3	69.6	77.0	64.0	70.3	830
1979	Mil. lbs.	79.7	72.1	90.0	81.1	94.6	84.0	78.7	88.6	65.2	95.3			

*See footnotes at end of table.

Table 19—Selected poultry and egg statistics*—Continued

Table 3.—Poultry: Slaughtered in federally inspected plants—Continued

Item	Data in—	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Mature chicken:														
Number inspected														
1977	Mil.	16.6	16.7	19.5	18.8	16.6	18.0	11.6	14.0	15.5	15.0	14.0	16.5	193
1978	Mil.	18.1	17.6	20.1	14.9	15.7	18.2	13.2	13.5	14.1	16.4	13.7	15.3	191
1979	Mil.	18.3	16.0	18.9	19.3	17.0	14.7	14.8	18.0	15.8	18.9			
Liveweight pounds														
1977	Mil. lbs.	70.1	69.0	83.5	79.6	71.9	76.1	49.1	60.4	66.6	65.5	61.1	70.6	823
1978	Mil. lbs.	74.6	73.0	83.5	64.3	68.3	77.8	57.8	60.8	62.7	72.1	60.9	66.1	822
1979	Mil. lbs.	78.2	68.4	82.0	83.3	76.5	69.2	66.9	83.0	72.4	86.5			
Certified ready-to-cook														
1977	Mil. lbs.	43.6	42.6	51.5	48.6	44.3	48.3	30.4	37.5	42.6	40.7	38.0	44.0	512
1978	Mil. lbs.	46.0	45.2	51.5	39.7	42.3	47.6	35.9	38.1	39.3	44.5	38.0	40.8	508
1979	Mil. lbs.	47.9	42.0	50.8	51.4	47.1	43.7	41.7	51.6	45.4	53.9			
Cut-up, ready-to-cook weight														
1977	Mil. lbs.	.7	.8	1.0	1.3	.8	.8	.7	.9	1.1	.8	.7	.9	10
1978	Mil. lbs.	.9	.4	.7	2.2	.9	.9	.8	1.1	.7	1.7	.7	.2	11
1979	Mil. lbs.	.7	.3	.6	.7	.6	.2	.1	.2	.1	.3			
Further processed, RTC weight														
1977	Mil. lbs.	37.8	38.5	43.1	39.6	35.9	33.1	22.4	35.7	32.4	34.8	31.4	33.4	418
1978	Mil. lbs.	38.6	38.5	39.9	36.5	40.8	39.1	23.2	40.5	36.3	46.2	39.2	34.7	453
1979	Mil. lbs.	44.8	40.8	46.0	38.3	44.1	35.2	29.7	34.3	1.2Turkey:	45.1			
Fryers—Roasters														
Number inspected														
1977	Mil.	.4	.8	1.1	.7	.8	1.0	.9	.9	.8	.7	.8	.5	9
1978	Mil.	.5	.5	.6	.4	.5	.7	.6	.8	.6	.5	.7	.4	.7
1979	Mil.	.6	.6	.6	.6	.6	.8	.9	1.1	.8	.8			
Liveweight pounds														
1977	Mil. lbs.	4.0	7.2	9.8	6.4	7.3	9.6	8.2	8.0	7.4	7.0	7.9	4.3	87
1978	Mil. lbs.	4.7	4.9	5.0	3.6	5.9	6.8	5.3	7.5	5.4	4.7	7.1	3.3	64
1979	Mil. lbs.	5.8	5.4	5.4	5.8	5.2	8.0	8.6	9.6	8.0	8.0			
Certified ready-to-cook														
1977	Mil. lbs.	3.2	5.8	7.8	5.1	5.8	7.6	6.5	6.3	5.8	5.5	6.2	3.4	69
1978	Mil. lbs.	3.7	3.9	4.0	2.9	4.7	5.3	4.2	5.9	4.2	3.7	5.5	2.5	51
1979	Mil. lbs.	4.5	4.2	4.3	4.6	4.1	6.4	6.8	7.5	6.3	6.2			
Young turkey														
Number inspected														
1977	Mil.	4.0	3.4	5.0	5.1	7.2	11.2	12.2	15.7	15.3	15.2	14.8	8.8	118
1978	Mil.	4.5	3.6	5.5	5.4	8.5	12.1	12.8	15.8	14.8	16.5	15.0	9.4	124
1979	Mil.	5.6	4.7	6.2	7.4	10.2	12.5	14.0	17.1	14.5	18.1			
Liveweight pounds														
1977	Mil. lbs.	84.8	66.2	90.7	92.9	130.6	208.8	227.1	297.9	291.6	308.9	303.0	183.3	2,286
1978	Mil. lbs.	98.8	70.3	103.3	97.4	155.4	228.1	241.3	303.0	284.9	335.4	306.8	196.0	2,419
1979	Mil. lbs.	120.9	91.8	113.4	133.2	190.2	232.8	262.1	326.2	282.9	365.6			
Certified ready-to-cook														
1977	Mil. lbs.	66.1	51.9	71.0	73.1	103.3	165.4	180.2	236.7	231.2	244.5	240.3	144.7	1,808
1978	Mil. lbs.	77.6	55.3	81.5	77.4	122.7	181.0	192.4	240.7	225.5	266.6	242.6	153.6	1,917
1979	Mil. lbs.	94.1	72.4	89.9	106.0	151.6	186.5	209.8	258.6	224.8	290.1			
Total turkey[5]														
Number inspected														
1977	Mil.	4.5	4.3	6.1	5.8	8.0	12.5	13.3	16.7	16.2	15.9	15.7	9.3	128
1978	Mil.	5.0	4.2	6.1	5.8	9.3	13.0	13.6	16.8	15.5	17.1	15.7	9.8	132
1979	Mil.	6.3	5.3	6.8	8.1	10.8	13.5	15.1	18.3	15.5	19.0			
Liveweight pounds														
1977	Mil. lbs.	90.5	74.8	102.4	100.2	139.1	222.8	239.1	307.6	300.6	316.2	311.3	187.9	2,392
1978	Mil. lbs.	104.1	76.7	109.4	101.7	163.7	238.9	250.8	313.5	291.9	341.2	313.9	198.6	2,503
1979	Mil. lbs.	127.8	97.9	119.8	141.2	197.5	244.6	274.3	337.9	293.3	375.0			
Certified ready-to-cook														
1977	Mil. lbs.	70.5	58.7	80.3	78.9	110.0	176.5	189.6	244.4	238.2	250.3	246.8	148.2	1,892
1978	Mil. lbs.	81.8	59.7	86.3	80.8	129.3	189.5	199.9	248.8	230.9	271.2	248.9	156.3	1,983
1979	Mil. lbs.	99.3	77.2	95.0	112.3	157.3	195.9	219.2	267.7	233.0	297.5			
Cut-up, ready-to-cook weight														
1977	Mil. lbs.	29.0	27.6	32.5	27.7	28.6	39.0	37.2	46.7	41.9	40.0	41.0	35.1	426
1978	Mil. lbs.	32.8	30.4	35.8	32.4	40.8	37.3	39.0	48.0	44.6	46.4	42.8	36.7	466
1979	Mil. lbs.	41.7	34.4	40.5	37.4	44.9	43.9	43.8	52.9	38.2	53.7			
Further processed, RTC weight														
Whole bird[6]														
1977	Mil. lbs.	6.9	7.9	12.4	16.5	24.0	38.2	51.6	66.8	76.5	75.2	56.6	27.6	459
1978	Mil. lbs.	11.1	9.4	10.4	9.9	24.3	43.3	59.2	72.2	78.0	86.0	72.0	25.2	501
1979	Mil. lbs.	15.8	13.9	20.7	19.2	35.0	55.7	48.4	73.7	66.3	90.8			
Other														
1977	Mil. lbs.	43.3	42.9	56.8	44.1	50.8	62.4	59.2	67.3	65.8	67.9	61.4	43.5	665
1978	Mil. lbs.	45.2	44.2	53.4	42.5	53.2	62.1	59.8	81.4	71.4	76.5	72.4	48.3	710
1979	Mil. lbs.	50.9	50.9	58.1	51.5	66.7	61.0	72.5	90.5	60.4	90.4			

*See footnotes at end of table.

Table 19—Selected poultry and egg statistics*—Continued

Item	Data in—	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Table 4.—Total poultry slaughter and commercial red meat production														
Total poultry slaughter, ready-to-cook weight[10]														
1977	Mil. lbs.	849	780	938	895	988	1,095	988	1,179	1,115	1,092	1,028	969	11,916
1978	Mil. lbs.	932	831	981	901	1,088	1,127	1,052	1,234	1,119	1,229	1,081	979	12,553
1979	Mil. lbs.	1,057	878	1,063	1,006	1,232	1,195	1,241	1,363	1,156	1,407			
Commercial red meat production, carcass weight														
1977	Mil. lbs.	3,237	3,084	3,551	3,195	3,122	3,298	2,925	3,404	3,354	3,345	3,416	3,241	39,172
1978	Mil. lbs.	3,215	3,046	3,342	3,079	3,260	3,081	2,883	3,274	3,139	3,355	3,345	3,094	38,119
1979	Mil. lbs.	3,281	2,758	3,093	2,882	3,133	2,990	2,960	3,328	2,879	3,556			
Table 5.—Poultry: Cold storage holdings and exports														
Cold storage holdings, first of month (ready-to-cook weight)														
Broilers, fryers, roasters														
1977	Mil. lbs.	32.9	27.4	24.6	26.5	25.2	27.9	31.3	30.3	29.6	30.7	31.2	33.3	
1978	Mil. lbs.	29.4	27.5	21.8	21.8	22.5	19.8	21.1	21.7	20.9	21.1	22.8	23.2	
1979	Mil. lbs.	20.1	17.9	17.7	18.3	16.3	16.8	18.6	23.4	25.5	38.5	30.8		
Total chicken														
1977	Mil. lbs.	154.5	139.3	131.5	134.6	134.4	139.3	146.4	148.7	147.7	148.0	145.9	142.6	
1978	Mil. lbs.	138.6	133.3	124.2	118.9	107.2	108.0	102.3	108.6	109.7	110.2	107.8	106.3	
1979	Mil. lbs.	101.9	106.3	100.7	100.9	103.9	107.4	122.8	132.5	138.8	164.3	150.6		
Turkey														
Whole bird														
1977	Mil. lbs.	147.8	134.6	118.0	94.5	82.5	93.3	146.0	197.7	268.2	340.4	374.1	207.4	
1978	Mil. lbs.	108.9	107.2	86.2	66.8	59.2	65.4	105.7	161.2	238.2	307.3	355.5	176.5	
1979	Mil. lbs.	117.0	112.1	100.1	86.6	80.9	102.1	146.4	207.6	301.8	366.3	209.5		
Other														
1977	Mil. lbs.	55.6	55.7	49.8	47.8	47.8	44.9	55.4	55.9	61.7	68.8	70.4	62.0	
1978	Mil. lbs.	59.1	61.1	50.4	46.2	41.9	38.4	47.2	52.4	62.9	65.9	70.0	59.7	
1979	Mil. lbs.	58.1	58.7	55.5	49.2	48.0	50.8	54.5	63.7	80.6	76.0	61.6		
Total turkey														
1977	Mil. lbs.	203.4	190.3	167.8	142.3	130.3	138.2	201.4	253.6	329.9	409.3	444.5	269.4	
1978	Mil. lbs.	167.9	168.3	136.6	113.0	101.1	103.9	152.8	213.6	301.2	373.3	425.4	236.2	
1979	Mil. lbs.	175.1	170.9	155.6	135.8	128.9	152.9	200.9	271.3	382.4	44.23	271.0		
Total poultry														
1977	Mil. lbs.	362.8	334.6	302.8	279.4	267.3	281.1	353.2	409.2	484.6	566.0	598.6	417.8	
1978	Mil. lbs.	310.0	304.6	262.7	233.4	209.7	213.3	257.0	325.8	415.9	488.4	538.3	346.4	
1979	Mil. lbs.	290.1	280.3	269.2	239.3	235.0	262.9	327.2	409.1	527.7	613.0	427.2		
Exports (ready-to-cook weight):														
Young chicken														
1977	Mil. lbs.	27.1	25.0	18.9	25.8	25.8	20.5	25.8	27.5	26.8	31.9	22.3	25.9	313
1978	Mil. lbs.	21.9	21.9	35.1	25.7	27.7	20.9	27.4	33.3	28.7	31.5	25.4	31.5	331
1979	Mil. lbs.	29.1	23.7	36.5	25.3	25.3	32.1	31.1	28.4	33.3				
Other chicken														
1977	Mil. lbs.	2.7	2.3	3.3	3.3	2.7	2.8	2.6	2.6	3.1	2.7	3.5	4.1	36
1978	Mil. lbs.	3.0	2.3	2.7	4.4	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8	3.0	2.2	2.8	2.6	30
1979	Mil. lbs.	2.9	2.2	2.8	1.7	1.5	2.0	2.7	1.6	3.0				
Turkey														
1977	Mil. lbs.	2.9	3.3	2.1	2.4	3.9	5.0	5.2	6.9	6.1	4.4	5.5	6.0	54
1978	Mil. lbs.	4.3	3.6	6.1	4.4	2.2	3.3	3.0	4.5	5.3	4.9	5.4	4.0	51
1979	Mil. lbs.	3.7	2.7	2.9	2.7	3.1	3.6	4.9	5.2	5.9				
Table 6.—Poultry: Chicken and turkey prices														
Broilers:														
Liveweight, U.S. at farm[11]														
1977	Cents	21.9	24.3	24.2	24.2	24.1	24.9	25.9	24.1	23.8	22.7	21.3	20.2	23.5
1978	Cents	22.9	24.8	25.0	27.8	27.8	30.5	31.6	26.2	26.2	24.6	24.5	24.9	26.4
1979	Cents	27.0	28.9	28.9	28.2	29.0	26.4	25.5	23.0	23.4	21.1	24.6		
Wholesale weighted average, ready-to-cook weight[12]														
9-city average[12]														
1977	Cents	38.8	42.1	41.9	41.4	42.2	43.3	44.3	42.0	40.9	39.2	37.3	36.2	40.8
1978	Cents	40.2	43.1	42.2	46.1	46.1	50.7	50.8	44.1	44.9	42.0	42.0	42.2	44.5
1979	Cents	45.8	49.2	47.5	47.5	49.4	46.1	42.8	39.6	39.9	37.0	42.6		
New York														
1977	Cents	38.0	40.7	41.1	41.0	41.8	43.7	43.8	41.6	40.3	38.8	36.0	35.5	40.2
1978	Cents	39.3	42.3	41.0	44.6	44.8	50.1	50.2	43.6	44.2	40.8	40.7	41.2	43.6
1979	Cents	44.8	48.4	46.7	46.6	48.5	45.1	41.7	38.7	39.0	36.3	41.7		

*See footnote at end of table.

Table 19—Selected poultry and egg statistics*—Continued

Table 6.—Poultry: Chicken and turkey prices—Continued

Item	Data in—	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Chicago (U.S. Grade A)														
1977	Cents	38.7	41.4	42.0	41.1	41.8	42.7	43.8	41.9	40.6	38.8	36.9	35.9	40.5
1978	Cents	40.0	42.8	41.9	46.1	45.5	50.1	50.2	43.3	44.4	41.5	41.7	42.0	44.1
1979	Cents	45.4	48.7	47.1	46.7	49.0	45.3	41.4	39.0	39.3	36.4	42.7		
Los Angeles														
1977	Cents	40.7	42.9	43.3	42.5	43.9	43.8	45.7	43.6	42.8	41.4	38.9	38.6	42.3
1978	Cents	42.1	45.2	44.7	49.2	49.1	52.4	52.7	46.4	46.9	44.9	44.9	44.5	46.9
1979	Cents	48.2	51.5	50.1	50.0	51.4	48.9	46.4	32.4	42.7	39.4	44.2		
Turkeys:														
Liveweight, U.S. at farm[3]														
1977	Cents	32.2	32.0	33.9	33.5	33.6	34.2	33.8	33.8	34.4	36.5	39.0	40.2	34.8
1978	Cents	38.3	37.3	38.1	38.1	39.5	40.7	42.0	43.4	44.0	45.7	47.2	49.9	42.0
1979	Cents	47.2	45.1	43.4	43.1	42.2	40.0	38.3	38.6	38.1	40.1	45.8		
Wholesale, frozen, f.o.b. or equivalent, RTC weight[1 4]														
New York														
Hens, 8-16 pounds														
1977	Cents	48.7	49.7	52.3	53.6	50.8	50.0	50.8	53.4	54.9	57.4	60.7	65.8	54.0
1978	Cents	60.5	59.2	60.9	59.2	61.3	63.6	67.8	68.0	68.7	72.7	78.0	80.5	66.7
1979	Cents	72.9	67.6	70.0	68.6	65.2	64.7	63.0	63.0	63.3	68.4			
Toms, 14-20 pounds														
1977	Cents	50.9	51.2	52.0	53.0	51.4	50.6	49.8	52.4	55.6	58.8	60.5	59.9	53.8
1978	Cents	57.6	59.9	59.6	59.1	60.7	63.4	65.6	67.8	69.8	71.2	74.0	75.0	65.3
1979	Cents	74.0	68.3	67.8	67.1	63.1	58.0	57.2	57.4	58.8	64.0			
Toms, 24-26 pounds														
1977	Cents	54.2	55.4	57.3	58.1	59.3	59.0	58.1	56.8	56.8	59.0	59.9	60.7	57.9
1978	Cents	61.8	62.1	62.8	65.3	68.9	71.4	70.0	70.0	70.0	71.3	72.0	73.9	68.3
1979	Cents	74.9	72.1	70.0	68.1	66.7	64.9	64.2	63.5	64.1	65.6			
Chicago														
Hens, 8-16 pounds														
1977	Cents	47.9	48.7	51.3	52.6	49.8	49.1	49.9	52.6	54.2	56.3	59.9	65.1	53.1
1978	Cents	60.2	58.2	60.4	58.3	60.2	62.8	(7)	67.6	67.6	71.1	(7)	79.2	64.6
1979	Cents	73.4	66.4	(7)	67.7	64.0	63.7	62.2	61.7	62.3	(7)			
Toms, 14-20 pounds														
1977	Cents	51.4	51.7	51.7	51.8	51.1	49.7	49.1	51.4	54.6	58.0	59.7	59.2	53.3
1978	Cents	58.7	59.0	58.9	59.1	(8)	62.6	65.2	67.0	68.4	70.1	72.6	73.8	65.0
1979	Cents	72.9	66.8	66.2	66.5	63.2	57.4	56.3	56.1	(7)	(7)			
Toms, 24-26 pounds														
1977	Cents	54.0	54.7	56.6	56.8	57.8	57.8	57.0	55.7	56.0	57.9	59.1	59.8	56.9
1978	Cents	61.0	61.4	62.1	(8)	(8)	(8)	69.0	68.9	69.2	70.5	71.2	73.4	67.4
1979	Cents	74.1	71.3	69.5	68.1	66.2	64.8	63.4	62.8	63.0	64.3			
Paid at seller's dock frozen, ready-to-cook weight[1 5]														
New York														
Hens, 8-16 pounds														
1977	Cents	51.9	52.6	55.4	56.6	54.4	53.9	53.9	56.8	57.5	60.3	64.2	70.1	57.3
1978	Cents	66.3	62.4	64.2	62.4	64.3	66.9	70.6	72.2	72.6	75.8	80.8	84.9	70.3
1979	Cents	78.8	72.2	73.4	73.2	68.6	67.9	66.9	66.7	67.0	71.3			
Toms, heaviest weight quoted														
1977	Cents	72.5	70.2	68.8	68.8	69.0	70.1	72.1	73.2	73.6	74.6	75.5	78.2	72.2
1978	Cents	78.5	78.5	78.9	79.0	82.2	86.1	86.8	87.0	87.0	89.1	91.6	90.7	84.6
1979	Cents	91.0	90.8	90.0	89.5	90.9	91.0	91.0	91.5	91.4	93.1			
Chicago														
Hens, 8-16 pounds														
1977	Cents	50.6	50.6	53.7	55.4	53.4	52.1	52.5	55.2	56.8	60.0	64.0	68.4	56.0
1978	Cents	64.7	61.6	63.8	61.2	64.1	66.2	69.4	71.0	71.3	74.5	79.8	85.0	69.4
1979	Cents	78.6	70.8	72.1	72.5	68.2	67.5	66.1	66.0	66.0	70.8			
Toms, heaviest weight quoted														
1977	Cents	70.5	68.3	67.0	66.9	67.7	69.2	70.1	71.8	72.5	72.5	73.1	74.7	70.4
1978	Cents	76.0	76.2	76.2	76.8	80.4	83.4	83.6	84.0	84.0	85.2	87.0	87.2	81.7
1979	Cents	88.0	88.0	88.5	87.8	87.2	84.2	87.5	87.5	87.5	87.9			

See footnote at end of table.

Table 19—Selected poultry and egg statistics*

Item	Data in-	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
Table 7.-Prices paid for feed ingredients and poultry feed, and product-feed ratios														
Corn, Chicago No. 2 yellow (price per bushel)														
1977	Dollars	2.53	2.54	2.52	2.50	2.41	2.27	2.05	1.78	1.80	1.84	2.14	2.19	2.21
1978	Dollars	2.19	2.21	2.36	2.51	2.57	2.51	2.28	2.17	2.13	2.22	2.28	2.27	2.31
1979	Dollars	2.29	2.35	2.42	2.53	2.66	2.83	3.00	2.83	2.78	2.73			
Soybean meal, 49-50 percent, Decatur, Ill. (per ton, bulk)														
1977	Dollars	224	230	247	299	284	247	183	161	162	151	178	175	212
1978	Dollars	175	166	193	189	195	187	187	178	176	192	190	204	186
1979	Dollars	201	207	210	207	205	228	221	205	205				
Poultry feed (per ton, bulk)[3]:														
Laying[4,6]														
1977	Dollars	156	161	161	163	166	162	153	143	138	135	141	146	152
1978	Dollars	147	146	149	154	155	157	155	150	149	150	154	156	152
1979	Dollars	157	159	162	163	163	166	177	174	173	174	171		
Broiler grower														
1977	Dollars	174	178	179	183	187	184	175	164	154	153	159	160	171
1978	Dollars	162	164	167	169	171	174	170	169	168	169	174	174	169
1979	Dollars	175	179	184	185	184	186	199	199	195	196	193		
Turkey grower														
1977	Dollars	182	186	188	195	200	196	188	176	172	168	175	177	184
1978	Dollars	177	177	179	183	184	186	186	182	180	183	185	185	182
1979	Dollars	189	194	198	200	201	203	214	206	206	207	203		
Product-feed price ratios:														
Egg[1,6]														
1977	Pounds	8.5	8.1	7.3	6.8	5.9	5.8	6.7	7.2	7.6	7.1	7.3	7.4	7.1
1978	Pounds	6.7	7.5	7.4	6.7	6.4	5.6	6.4	7.0	7.3	7.0	7.5	7.9	6.9
1979	Pounds	7.7	7.6	7.9	7.4	7.0	6.7	6.0	6.0	6.3	6.0	6.7		
Broiler[7]														
1977	Pounds	2.5	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.7	3.0	2.9	3.1	3.0	2.7	2.5	2.8
1978	Pounds	2.8	3.0	3.0	3.3	3.2	3.5	3.7	3.1	3.1	2.9	2.8	2.9	3.1
1979	Pounds	3.1	3.2	3.1	3.0	3.2	2.8	2.6	2.3	2.4	2.2	2.5		
Turkey[1,8]														
1977	Pounds	3.5	3.4	3.6	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.8	4.0	4.3	4.5	4.5	3.8
1978	Pounds	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.5	4.8	4.9	5.0	5.1	5.4	4.6
1979	Pounds	5.0	4.6	4.4	4.3	4.2	3.9	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.9	4.5		
Table 8.—USDA contracts to purchase chicken and turkey														
Young chicken (ready-to-cook wt.)														
1977	Mil. lbs.	4.9	6.4	4.4	---	---	---	---	5.5	6.3	8.4	13.2	11.4	62.1
1978	Mil. lbs.	9.6	12.7	3.5	---	---	---	3.2	9.4	7.6	7.8	11.1	10.2	75.1
1979	Mil. lbs.	6.8	9.4	6.8	2.1	---	---	---	11.9	12.7	10.4			
Canned boned chicken (RTC wt.)														
1977	Mil. lbs.	7.7	6.6	16.9	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	4.3	7.9	43.4
1978	Mil. lbs.	3.8	5.8	6.7	6.9	2.1	---	---	---	---	5.4	9.5	5.3	45.5
1979	Mil. lbs.	6.9	4.4	9.7	---	---	---	---	---	---				
Turkey (ready-to-cook wt.)														
1977	Mil. lbs.	6.2	7.2	---	---	---	---	5.8	16.6	14.3	3.9	10.3	9.0	73.4
1978	Mil. lbs.	9.6	6.8	8.0	---	---	---	---	7.7	14.5	14.0	9.4	9.8	80.0
1979	Mil. lbs.	13.3	3.7	2.8	---	---	---	6.6	9.5	15.3	15.3			
Canned boned turkey (RTC wt.)														
1977	Mil. lbs.	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1978	Mil. lbs.	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1979	Mil. lbs.	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---			

[1] Shell eggs plus the shell egg equivalent of egg products. [2] All eggs, including hatching eggs and eggs sold at retail. [3] Price as of 15th of month. [4] Delivered f.o.b. buyer. [5] Delivered store door. [6] 30-pound containers, carlot or trucklot. [7] Insufficient price data. [8] Includes fryers-roasters, young turkeys, and old turkeys. [9] Whole carcass turkeys which have been injected, basted, marinated, etc. and packaged as such. [10] Includes federally inspected slaughter of all poultry plus other slaughter of chicken and turkey. [11] Price for month. [12] Truckiot sales of U.S. Grade A and plant grade, ice packed and CO2 chilled broilers delivered to major areas. [13] Computed by weighting the city averages by their metropolitan area populations. [14] U.S. Grade A, carlots or truckiots. [15] U.S. Grade A, less than carlots. [16] Pounds of laying feed equal in value to 1 dozen eggs. [17] Pounds of broiler grower equal in value to 1 pound of broiler liveweight. [18] Pounds of turkey grower equal in value to 1 pound of turkey liveweight.

LIST OF TABLES

Table	Title	Page
1.	Poultry and Egg Situation at a Glance	2
2.	Retail prices and price indexes for egg and poultry 1978-79	2
3.	Egg type chick hatchery operations	7
4.	Force moltings and light-type hen slaughter, 1977-79	7
5.	Egg prices, 1978-79	8
6.	Shell eggs broken and egg products produced under federal inspection, 1978-79	8
7.	Total eggs: Supply and utilization, 1977-79	9
8.	Broiler supply and prices	10
9.	Broiler chicks hatched and pullet chicks placed in hatchery flocks	13
10.	Eggs set and broiler chicks placed weekly in 21 commercial broiler producing States, 1977-79	14
11.	Young chicken supply and utilization, 1978-79	15
12.	Turkey supply and consumption	16
13.	Turkey hatchery operations, United States, 1978-79	16
14.	Turkey: Supply and utilization, 1978-79	18
15.	Estimated costs and returns for market eggs	18
16.	Estimated costs and returns for broilers	19
17.	Estimated costs and returns for turkeys	19
18.	Prices and price spreads for large eggs, frying chickens and medium turkeys, by regions and 4-region average	20
19.	Selected poultry and egg statistics*	29

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